

Former Medellin mayor killed

MEDALLIN, Colombia (R) — Gunmen firing from two cars Monday killed a former mayor of Colombia's cocaine capital Medellin, which has been rocked by violence since drug traffickers declared war on the establishment last month. Police said leading industrialist Pablo Palacios Gonzalez, 45, was hit by seven bullets fired by about eight men travelling in two cars as he was being driven to work in the residential district of El Poblado. The driver of his black BMW sedan was also killed and the gunmen escaped. Nobody claimed responsibility for the killing of the trade lawyer, a member of the ruling Liberal Party of President Virgilio Barco, who announced an unprecedented operation against drug traffickers Aug. 18. Palacios Gonzalez was president of a firm that makes cars and mobile phones and served as mayor of Medellin, home to the cocaine cartel of the same name, from 1983 to 1986. Police could not say if Monday's killing was another example of drug-related violence in Medellin during the past two weeks. The shooting occurred as municipal authorities were considering lifting a six-hour overnight curfew clamped two weeks ago on the capital of the world's cocaine trade.

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Attas ends 'positive, fruitful' visit to Jordan

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein described South Yemeni President Ali Abdullah al-Attas' visit to the Kingdom as successful and said it allowed Jordan the opportunity to exchange views and establish real cooperation between the two countries.

The King was speaking to reporters at Marka military airport during an official state farewell ceremony for Attas. Excerpts from the remarks were carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

King Hussein said he had the opportunity to meet with Attas at Arab summits "and I found him an Arab leader who enjoys respect, appreciation and a deep feeling of responsibility."

In answer to a question on Arab efforts to end the Lebanese crisis, the King said: "Jordan supported and will continue to support the (Arab) tripartite committee which enjoys the unanimous support of the Arab Nation in its endeavours, which, we hope, will contribute to solving the Lebanese issue."

He said he would continue his contacts with other Arab leaders on the Lebanese situation "out of my deep interest in the Lebanese issue."

The South Yemeni president left Amman Monday concluding a three-day visit which he described as positive, successful and

paving the way for increased cooperation between his country and Jordan.

The talks also covered bilateral relations and led to the signing of several agreements which "would serve as the framework to develop the brotherly relations in all fields... and the foundation for further development and cooperation," he said.

Political issues

The Palestinian question and the need to continue support for the 21-month intifada received "great attention" from the two leaders. Attas said he and the King pledged continued commitment to reaching just and comprehensive peace which would guarantee the Palestinian people "their right of return, right to self-determination and their right to establish their homeland on their soil."

Attas called on all concerned parties to "negotiate a peaceful and just settlement to the Palestinian issue."

Attas said that a "great anxiety" was felt by both Jordan and South Yemen over the continuation of the Lebanese civil war and that the two leaders have agreed to "work on helping the Lebanese people regain its unity and independence."

The Arab League's tripartite committee, assigned the task of finding a peaceful settlement to the Lebanon war, "will continue its efforts with the different fac-

tions in Lebanon" and allow the Lebanese people to form their own national government, he said.

Attas said that his country "is not comfortable" with the stalemate in peace talks between Iraq and Iran and expressed hope that "direct negotiations under the supervision of the United Nations will be enacted immediately to reach peace based on common trust and equal rights for the two peoples."

Asked whether his country discussed joining the Arab Cooperation Council grouping (ACC) during his visit to Amman, Attas said: "This issue was not discussed during these meetings, but we reiterate our belief that every Arab coordination spurs its fruits into the same stream of comprehensive Arab cooperation."

Yemeni relations

He described his country's relations with North Yemen as "good and continuously developing." He said the two countries work together to reestablish their unity "through a series of measures aimed at bringing together a social and economic unity."

"The border area between us and North Yemen is a promising area (in oil)," Attas added. The extent of oil reserves in the area is not clear yet but that assessments so far indicate that they are "good."



A man holds his child and rushes for safety yesterday after clashes in Beirut.

Escalated battles seen in Lebanon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The people of Beirut, exhausted by early six months of artillery bombardments, braced themselves Monday for more suffering ahead of Arab League talks on whether to revive peace efforts.

The fears were further accentuated when Syrian gunboats seized a ship carrying supplies off the beleaguered ports controlled by army commander Michel Aoun after overnight tank and artillery barrages that trapped thousands of people in mountain towns ringed by forest fires.

Police said 11 people were killed and 34 wounded in the duels in the central mountains that form the eastern flank of the Aoun-controlled Christian enclave and in clashes along Beirut's dividing green line.

That raised the casualty toll to at least 844 killed and 2,508 wounded since March 8, when the fighting erupted between Aoun's troops and Syrian soldiers and their Lebanese allies.

Two Syrian gunboats intercepted the merchant ship Carla about 35 kilometres off the coast of the enclave at mid-morning, a police spokesman said.

The vessel was escorted to the Syrian-controlled port of Tripoli in north Lebanon, the spokesman said. He had no information about its nationality or owners.

The Syrian navy has turned back several ships trying to defy the six-month-old blockade of the Aoun sector in recent weeks. Eight vessels have been sunk or

set on fire by artillery.

The artillery battles ended following several days of sporadic clashes.

"Samira, Samira, don't forget to buy lots of potatoes. The radio said there's an Arab meeting this week and people say shelling is going to be bad again," Mounir Wehbeh shouted from his apartment balcony in west Beirut.

After 14 years of civil war, the Lebanese have learned that rival forces intensify their battles just before any talks about a settlement in order to step up the political pressures.

Foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Morocco are due to meet in Jeddah Wednesday to lay the framework for resuming their mediation mission. They said in July their efforts had reached a dead end.

Samira, her husband Mounir and their four children are among about 700,000 of Beirut's 1.5 million people estimated to still live in the city.

The Wehbehs are among the few remaining near a Syrian artillery battery, nicknamed "Abu Abdo," which pounds east Beirut nightly and thus attracts return fire.

"When Abu Abdo starts firing, our knees shake, we sweat and panic. We hold each other because death sounds metres away," said Mounir.

"We decided to stay here not because we are courageous. We have nowhere to go, that's why."

Crown Prince urges continued Arab support for uprising

WASHINGTON (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has paid tribute to the Palestinian uprising and underlined the need to reach a solution to end the tragedy in the occupied territories and to help the intifada attain its goals and achieve the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

During a meeting with the dean and members of the Arab diplomatic corps accredited to the United States, Washington, Prince Hassan reviewed Jordan's unstinting efforts to shoulder its Arab and international commitments.

"What is important is to talk in one voice, as one Arab nation,

and emphasise the humanitarian and strategic dimensions when we explain our causes," he said. Prince Hassan also explained the economic crisis Jordan faced and expressed satisfaction with the rescheduling of foreign debts as well as positive Arab contribution in support of Jordan.

Furthermore, the Crown Prince briefed the Arab diplomats on Jordan's position toward the peace process in the Middle East and the situation in the Arab region in general. The Crown Prince also reviewed Arab efforts to bring about a just and durable solution and ensure the Palestinian people's national and legiti-

mate rights, including their right in self-determination.

The dean of Arab diplomatic corps praised the efforts of His Majesty King Hussein and Prince Hassan to explain the Arab World's urgent issues to the U.S. administration. He also referred to the distinguished role Jordan plays in the peace process in the region and conveyed the greetings of the Arab Ambassadors' Council to the King.

Prince Hassan will hold official talks with a number of U.S. officials and deliver lectures in a number of U.S. institutions and universities in Washington, Virginia, Chicago and Boston.

7 killed in 24 hours in occupied territories

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The body of a Palestinian man was found Monday in a West Bank village raided by the army, raising to seven the number of Arabs killed by Israeli forces Sunday in one of the bloodiest days of the 21-month uprising.

In occupied Jerusalem, a judge ordered a Palestinian held for 15 days on suspicion he stabbed a bus driver Saturday in an unsuccessful attempt to force a bus off the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway and into a ravine.

The driver managed to stop the bus, and the suspect was seized by passengers. Police, who have refused to release the suspect's name, say he later "confessed" to killing a Jewish man last week in Tel Aviv. The attacker has been identified as a 26-year-old from Ramallah in the West Bank.

A military spokesman said troops opened fire on stone-throwing protesters in Kaddum village but Palestinians blamed the killing on Jewish settlers and said the Arab was killed by shots fired from a car with Arab license plates. They named the dead man as 20-year-old Sabeed Abdul Karim Sultani.

Israeli troops have commanded Arab cars and disguised themselves as Palestinians, journalists and tourists during the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Arab sources said residents may have mistaken soldiers dressed in civilian clothing for settlers. They said two Kaddum residents were wounded and two Kaddum residents were wounded and two disappeared from the village.

Troops shot dead five other Palestinians and wounded 40 Sunday during one of the bloodiest days in the occupied territories in several months.

The youngest casualty was 16-month-old Wael Hijazi. She was hit in the eye by a plastic-coated steel bullet during clashes that erupted in the West Bank city of Nablus despite a curfew.

Doctors at the city's Rafidia hospital said they would have to remove her eye to extract the pellet embedded deep in her skull.

An Israeli member of parliament, citing a growing number of Arab children killed or wounded by army bullets, called for a review of the military's rules on opening fire.

"There has been a steep rise. In the first 10 days of September four under the age of 14 were killed and in August there were 15 under 16 years old," parliamentarian Yossi Sarid said Sunday.

"I shall be asking (Defence Minister Yitzhak) Rabin to order a review not of the rules as they are written — they're fine on

paper — but how they are applied."

The heaviest day of casualties in the uprising occurred on April 16, 1988, when 18 Palestinians were shot and killed in protests that followed the assassination in Tunis of Palestine Liberation Organisation military commander Khalil Wazir, better known as Abu Jihad.

PLO contacts

The PLO said Sunday that Israel was committing a "mass crime" in the West Bank city of Nablus, and appealed to the United Nations to intervene.

Bassam Abu Sharif, spokesman for PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, said in a statement contacts also were underway with European governments for "quick action to put an end to the Israeli crime."

The PLO was also contacting Jewish leaders in Europe and the United States to brief them on the "tragic situation in Nablus and its refugee camps," said the statement, which was telephoned to the AP in Nicosia, from PLO headquarters in Tunis.

The statement referred to new measures, including the use of live ammunition and helicopter chases adopted by the Israeli forces to try to put down the uprising.

Arafat in Cairo for talks on election plan

CAIRO (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat arrived Monday for talks with President Hosni Mubarak and senior officials on Middle East peace efforts.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA) said Arafat was greeted at Cairo international airport by Osama Al Baz, Mubarak's political adviser.

Arafat was expected to meet Mubarak later in the day.

Last week, Mubarak held talks with Arafat during a brief visit to Tunisia and said that the Palestinian leader would come to Cairo for further discussions on Egyptian ideas for proposed Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

Mubarak has been helping with ideas to find a formula acceptable to both the PLO and Israel for negotiations in resolve the

occupied territories.

On Saturday, Mubarak told reporters that Palestinian leaders had offered no objections to ideas he proposed to supplement an Israeli plan, but still were considering their final position.

Mubarak's 10-point initiative was sent to Israel in July, seeking to clarify Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's plan for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The 10 points include acceptance by Israel of the U.S.-backed concept of trading land for peace; participation in the vote by 140,000 Palestinians of Arab Jerusalem; international observers as election overseers; withdrawal of Israeli troops from polling areas; an Israeli pledge to an opening date for talks on a final settlement; and an end to construction of Israeli settlements in

the occupied territories.

In his remarks Saturday, Mubarak said that Arafat was still pondering the PLO's final position on the Egyptian initiative.

American officials and leaders of Israel's Labour party, a partner in Shamir's coalition cabinet, have welcomed the Egyptian ideas.

In Israel, newspapers said that three prominent Palestinians from the occupied territories were traveling to Cairo this week to urge the PLO to allow Arabs from the West Bank and Gaza to hold peace talks with Israel. The newspapers identified them as Faisal Hussein, Faysal Abu Rahme and Radwan Abu Ayyash.

There was no immediate word in Cairo on whether or when they would come.

Banks agree to reschedule \$575m of Jordan's debts

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Jordan and its main commercial bank creditors have reached an agreement in principle to reschedule part of the Kingdom's foreign debts, the Finance Ministry said Monday at the conclusion of two days of talks, including a marathon session which ended late Sunday.

The Finance Ministry said in a statement that a six-member steering committee of the London Club of creditor banks and the Jordanian government agreed in principle to defer \$575 million due between Jan. 1, 1989 and June 30, 1991. The payments will be made over an 11-year period with a grace period of five years during which only interest will be paid, according to the statement.

Finance Minister Basel Jaradeh, who said last week that the amount involved in this week's talks in Amman was \$450 million, explained that the earlier figure represented payments until Dec. 31, 1990, whereas the agreement reached covered payments until June 30, 1991.

Jordan has to come current in its interest payments which were not under consideration for rescheduling. According to the Finance Ministry statement, the country will have to pay \$82 million for 1989.

"The figure is closer to \$100 million in interest for 1989," an informed banking source told the Jordan Times.

There was no confirmation of reports that individual members of the London Club were offering a loan package to help Jordan meet the interest payments.

"If this did happen, then it was outside the meetings in their individual capacities," another banking source told the Jordan Times.

According to Jaradeh, the country owes the London Club a total of \$1.1 billion — about 19 per cent of the total foreign debt burden of \$7.2 billion.

The minister denied reports in the foreign press that Jordan owes a total of \$1.6 billion to creditor banks. "The correct figure is \$1.1 billion," he told the Jordan Times.

An informed source said that the discrepancy in the figure could be the result of the exclusion of short-term loans not usually included in rescheduling.

"There are short-term loans involved but the figure is negligible," Jaradeh countered.

Another source said a team of professional auditors would be visiting Jordan to determine the actual figure in order to remove any discrepancies.

The steering committee is not empowered to make the final decisions for the represented banks. Individual banks have to agree to the terms negotiated in Amman, and the government has to sign separate bilateral documents with the concerned banks.

"Usually when the steering committee agrees there is no problem with the individual banks," Jaradeh said.

The committee has already sent telex messages to the respective banks outlining the proposed terms.

The rescheduling agreement already reached with the Paris Club of governmental lenders — which accounts for 43 per cent of Jordan's total foreign debt — in July stipulated that the Kingdom should seek similar terms with the London Club. "We have rescheduled most of our debts," Jaradeh said.

"We only have to finalise agreements with the Soviet bloc and bilateral agreements with the London or Paris clubs."

The steering committee of the London Club is chaired jointly by Gulf International Bank B.S.C. and Standard Chartered Bank. The other members are Banque Nationale de Paris, the Commercial Bank of Kuwait, Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company and Union de Banques Arabes et Francaises (U.B.F.).

'Perform or quit the stage' — enlightened voters stun candidates

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

THE SALONS are buzzing with an old/new topic: not of cosmetics or hairdries, but something of a totally different nature — a new phenomenon that is pervading the Jordanian people. A mini-democratic exercise in preparation for the final test. Candidates and voters are meeting to discuss issues which will influence many a candidacy in the Nov. 8 general election. But, most important of all, they are meeting for the first time on a common ground and testing each other's abilities and knowledge. Communications between voter and candidates have thus begun.

In some salons, the voter is emerging as the winner of the awareness test, and the candi-

date is facing the ultimate test of pressure and time. They want to establish ground rules for communication. A candidate wants to know how he or she can reach the constituency, what channels are available? And a voter wants to understand the candidate but, again, through which channels? The candidate watches his/her possible voter with keen eyes and wants to learn how can he/she pick on the minds of his/her constituency and understand what it wants him/her to do or say? How will he/she understand the mentality of the people in only two or three months?

The problem is that there are no scientifically prepared polls conducted over the years to monitor the trends in society. Jordanians have been a silent people for the past 22 years.

How can anyone claim to understand what changes took place during these years in their lives, in their minds and their aspirations?

Several candidates have prepared two-page campaign platforms stuffed with all possible demands, whether political, economical, social or personal, with the net result that hardly any of them pinpoint priorities. "Freedom and mechanism"

The reason is simple. The candidates do not seem to know what the people want. There has not been much communication between them. The guidelines are there. Freedom to speak and freedom to move and freedom to work. But there are no specifics. The questions posed to candidates, during meetings I attended in a bid to absorb the rules of the game,

were centred on the practical application of the abstract image carried in the word "freedom."

The constituency wants to know the "mechanism." Voters want their candidates to have an election programme, not an election campaign. No slogans. Mathematical equations are what they want. The people, although silent, were always listening to slogans... to promises... to words of compassion...

They read in newspapers that conferences were held all the time to discuss "development, trends, ways to improve, and issues of mutual interest" — vague umbrella terms to make the citizen feel that those in authority were working... but they hardly ever saw results.

Now they want to know how. How would my candidate deal

with the increasing cost of living? How will my candidate deal with mismanagement of public funds which partly led to the economic straits Jordan is witnessing now? How will my candidate deal with unemployment? How will my candidate participate in the allocation of national priorities?

Bread and butter issues seem to attract most of their attention.

A silent young man attending one of those salon gatherings suddenly broke out of his cocoon and asked the candidate why was it so and so and how? The candidate was stunned; he had not heard of this issue before.

The tables turned as the candidate asked the people around him to tell him what issues they would address if they were candidates. He sat

back and absorbed. The silent people, he was disturbed to find out, were aware, maybe even more aware than the candidates. All this time the candidate thought his constituency wanted slogans of "freedom" in the general sense but he soon found out that the people knew exactly what they wanted, had ideas on how it could be implemented and wanted their candidates to be specific in their answers and programmes.

There were no revolutionary ideas. Everyone wanted to work within the context of the Constitution and the political realities of the area. They understood the need for a strong military, even if they wished that was not necessary.

They understood the need for the ethnic and religious balance among candidates, even if their inner thoughts wished that such

distinctions need not be part of modern Jordan. They understood the political fears of the government, and many of them felt too, but they wanted to share the responsibility... they want to have a say in factors affecting their lives, their future, the future of their children.

One candidate gave an example of this need to share — professional associations' elections. He maintained that very few members participated in these elections for years. Until they found out that the resolutions adopted by the heads of these associations were affecting their lives adversely. Then they started taking interest. Now, the number of voters in these elections have increased.

In view of decisions adopted by the executive authority which affected the daily lives of

the people, whether adversely or positively, the people are feeling the results. Therefore people have worked on trying to understand the forces which are affecting them. They came up with formulas, ideas and concepts. In some cases, they have specific solutions and they want an effective channel through to the executive authority, which will transmit these ideas and the fears haunting a third-world people.

This awareness may not be shared by all voters. There are many who would still feel themselves obliged to support their family or "ashira" candidate, or their undeclared party candidate or their friends. But it is a healthy development in a society that had not had a national democratic experience for the past 22 years and should receive the support it deserves.

Rabin calls on West Bank Palestinians to negotiate

PHILADELPHIA (Agencies) — Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin says his government is ready to talk peace in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as soon as Palestinians come up with acceptable negotiators.

"Let's shift from confrontation to negotiations," Rabin told about 350 people Sunday at the Israel Bonds North American leadership conference as he explained Israel's May 14 initiative.

Rabin criticised recent statements by Palestinian Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat, which he said have escalated violence in the occupied territories.

Rabin declined to discuss differences within the Israeli government over the fate of its initiative aimed at ending the 21-month-old uprising, or intifada.

"I believe the key issue today on which we are all united is how to start, not where to go," Rabin said. "What will make or break the initiative of the government of Israel is the issue: Will we find among the Palestinians in the territories a partner for negotiations."

Israeli newspapers said Sunday three prominent Palestinians will travel to Egypt this week to urge the PLO to let Arabs from the occupied territories hold peace talks with Israel.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak reportedly will propose a delegation that includes two Palestinians deported from Israel, a move that could sidestep PLO refusal to have negotiators only from the occupied territories.

ies, because the deported men could be seen as representing Palestinians abroad.

Rabin said response to the initiative was generally positive in meetings he had last week with U.S. officials in Washington.

"At the White House, we had to clarify some issues that it might be were not understood well by both sides about certain recent events," he said.

He declined later to spell out the issues, but told reporters the discussions were aimed at preventing misunderstandings involving a range of issues involving Israel.

During the speech, Rabin said he would leave for home Sunday knowing the defence relationship between the United States and Israel is strong.

"Sometimes I wish that I would get the understanding for the seeds of the defence of Israel by the government of Israel that I get here," he said.

During the conference, the Israel Bonds Committee announced Americans and Canadians had purchased almost \$390 million in bonds in the first eight months of this year, an increase of 7 per cent over 1988.

More than \$9.6 billion in Israel bonds have been sold since the organisation was founded in 1951. The proceeds have helped fund projects including roads, railways, power stations, ports, refineries and science-based industries.

Rabin said Sunday it would be a setback for Washington to grant a visa to PLO leader Yasser

Arafat, who reportedly wants to address the U.N. General Assembly this month.

He told reporters that granting Arafat a visa would be a "setback to the hopes of peace" in the Israeli-occupied territories.

A key test of whether his centre-right Mithradat Party will back him comes in Monday's election of a new speaker for the 1989-90 parliamentary session.

Ozal has called on the party to re-elect outgoing Speaker Yildirim Akbulut but over 25 Motherland deputies back at least five rival candidates.

"For both Ozal and the country, the presidential stakes are getting higher. It will be a serious test of Turkish democracy and stability," one Western diplomat said.

Ozal does not have to declare his candidacy until Oct. 19, when a 20-day parliamentary process starts to elect a successor to President Kenan Evren.

Even has made clear he will not stay on after a seven-year term ends on Nov. 9.

"I may or may not be a candidate," Ozal has frequently said, provoking newspaper speculation and plunging the political establishment into new bouts of uncertainty.

Ozal, the son of a provincial bank clerk, was more likely than not to stand, wrote Hasan Cemal, editor of the respected Cumhuriyet newspaper.

But some analysts say Ozal, 62, is hunting at presidential ambitions in a bid to save his increasingly unpopular government from opposition pressure to hold a general election before its term expires in 1992.

Senior Motherland deputy Mehmet Kececiler is advising Ozal against the presidency, which has wide veto but no executive powers, saying the loose-knit party still needed him.

This was a way of saying Ozal had no clear successor and the party might collapse without him, diplomatic sources said.

Only 14 per cent of Turks would now vote for the Motherland, a Gallup-Sahab newspaper poll said. Only 21.7 per cent voted for it in March elections.

Over 30 per cent would vote for Erdal Inonu's Social Democratic populist Party (SHP) and Ozal even lags behind his right-wing rival Suleyman Demirel's True Path Party (DYP).

The SHP and DYP say they will boycott the parliamentary vote if Ozal puts himself forward as eighth — and the first fully civilian — president of Turkey's 55 million people.

Ozal could still be elected by Motherland deputies alone, who have a 65-seat majority. But this would undermine the presidency in popular esteem and cause instability, said Muztar Soyas of the liberal Milliyet newspaper.

Rapid democratisation under Ozal has liberalised markets, brought foreign investment, boosted exports and taken roads, electricity and telephones to most corners of Turkey.

But the price has been high, with 73 per cent inflation and a widening gap between rich and poor.

An economic cycle that boomed with eight per cent growth in 1986 is now heading for bust with only 0.2 per cent increase in gross national product (GNP) forecast for 1989.

Lack of money has forced one in 10 families to send their school-age children out to work. A third have had to sell household goods to make ends meet and 62 per cent were in debt, an Istanbul Chamber of Commerce survey said.

Attacks on Ozal intensified over the summer when the cabinet did not meet for 50 days. Ozal told reporters "I have all the communications equipment I need on my yacht."

The Turkish army, which Ozal has inspected in a T-shirt, would prefer another candidate. But it has no intention of intervening directly as it did in 1960s, 1971 and 1980-83, political sources said.

"They have lines of remote control but have relinquished their desire to have their man on the top. They have retired to a democratic line," Soyas told Reuters.

Ozal keeps rivals guessing as presidential poll nears

ISTANBUL (R) — Like a poker player with his cards held close to his chest, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal is keeping his rivals guessing about what may be his biggest gamble yet — a bid for the Turkish presidency.

A key test of whether his centre-right Motherland Party will back him comes in Monday's election of a new speaker for the 1989-90 parliamentary session.

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Iranian parliament condemns U.S. congressional letter

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — The Iranian Parliament has warned of "consequences" to a request by nearly 200 U.S. congressmen that the United States support Iranian resistance groups saying it was a call "for the overthrow of the Islamic Republic."

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Parliament Speaker Mahdi Karubi as saying that "U.S. leaders will take the wish of overthrowing the Islamic Republic to their graves."

In a vitriolic speech made from the pulpit of the parliament, or Majlis, Karubi described the move by the U.S. congressmen as "stupid," and said that the action demonstrated the "failure (of the United States) to realise the

depth and dignity of the Islamic revolution," the radio reported.

The U.S. congressmen's action was also condemned by the entire 270-member Majlis, which released a statement warning the U.S. leadership that "the responsibility for the consequences of such acts lie with the signatories to this letter," the radio reported.

In a letter addressed to U.S. Secretary of State James A. Baker III, 121 Democrats and 65 Republicans earlier this week warned the administration of President George Bush against "continuing to speculate and hope for the miraculous emergence of moderates from within the present (Iranian) ruling clique."

Instead, the congressmen asked the administration to work with its allies to impose an arms and economic boycott against Iran, and actively support Iranian resistance groups which could "bring about change and a new order in Iran."

The request by the congressmen as Bush adopted a conciliatory tone toward the new Iranian government that took power in Iran following the death in June of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Bush has sent messages to newly-elected President Hashemi Rafsanjani saying Iran could end its international isolation by releasing the eight U.S. hostages held by Iranian-backed militants in Lebanon.

The same day that the Iranian parliament delivered its warning of "consequences," Rafsanjani was meeting with a delegation of Hizbollah, or Party of God, the pro-Iranian umbrella group for Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim factions which are believed to be holding the 8 Americans and 8 other Western hostages in Lebanon.

The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), also monitored in Nicosia, said Rafsanjani "reiterated Iran's support for the Muslim people of Lebanon, especially Hizbollah."

Rafsanjani, 55, is seen as the leader of a more pragmatic camp within the leadership whose first priority is to rebuild Iran's war-

battered economy, devastated in the 8-year Gulf war which halted in August last year.

He is believed to want to improve Iran's image abroad, and to mend ties with the West in order to attract much-needed funds and technology for a major reconstruction effort.

Since his election last July, Rafsanjani has been weeding out influential radicals in the higher echelons of the government who oppose his policies and seek to reinforce Iran's vehemently anti-Western stance.

Rafsanjani scored a major success when he was able to secure the necessary vote of confidence from parliament for his entire 22-man cabinet.

Britain frees Iranian bomber

LONDON (R) — An Iranian prisoner, whose case has been linked by Tehran to that of a Briton held in Iran, was released from a British prison and deported home after serving seven years for his role in a car bombing.

The home office said Koroush Fouladi was put on a plane bound for Tehran at London's Heathrow Airport.

Fouladi was sentenced in 1982 to 10 years' imprisonment after a bungled London car bombing in 1980 in which two men alleged to have been his accomplices were killed.

"He is simply being released because, with remission, he has served his time," a Foreign Office spokesman said.

It is customary for some prisoners in British jails to have their sentences cut by a third for good behaviour.

Iranian officials have publicly raised Fouladi's case in response to appeals for the release of Roger Cooper, a Briton who has been in jail in Iran on spying charges since 1985.

British press reports have speculated that the Iranian's return home could pave the way for Cooper's release but the Foreign Office spokesman said no deal had been struck.

"If they plan to let Roger Cooper go, that would be extremely welcome but there is no indication that they have such plans," the spokesman said.

The Iranian news agency IRNA quoted a commentary in the Iranian newspaper Kayhan which said Britain had two motives for freeing Fouladi — first to win Cooper's release, and secondly to try to resume diplomatic ties with Iran.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Iraq announces results of Kurdish polls

BAGHDAD (R) — The committee supervising the election of the legislative council in the autonomous region of Kurdistan said two women had won seats in the 50-seat body. The committee, headed by vice-chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council Izzat Ibrahim, made no mention of the turnout in Saturday's election or the votes each candidate received. The official Iraqi News Agency said about 785,000 Kurds were eligible to vote for the 50-seat council, or local parliament, which sits for three years. Laws passed in 1974 granted autonomy to Kurds in the northern towns of Erbil, Sulaimaniyah and Dohuk. Governor of Sulaimaniyah, Jaafar Abdul Karim Barazani, who won in the election, is widely believed to be the new speaker, when the council meets in two weeks time. Several candidates said during the election campaign that they were members of the ruling Arab Baath Party.

Kurds report killing 76 Iranians

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi-backed Kurds have said Sunday they killed 76 Iranian soldiers and Revolutionary Guards in a series of attacks in northeast Iran last Wednesday and Thursday. A spokesman for Iran's Baghdad-based Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) said the battles were fought at the Iranian towns of Marivan, Sardasht and Peranshahr close to the northern Iraqi border. "Our fighters recognised 30 enemy bodies and captured 17 soldiers in the operations, which left two of our fighters dead," the spokesman said. The group has reported killing 172 Iranian troops, wounding 25 and capturing 30 in other attacks over the past three weeks. The KDP said last week it had rejected an offer by Iran's President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to reopen talks with his country's Kurdish dissidents after the assassination of the party's leader Abdelrahman Qassemlu in Vienna. KDP's acting Secretary-General Saeed Badal told reporters in Baghdad Rafsanjani was behind Qassemlu's assassination.

Tunisia's opposition gets new leader

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia's main opposition party, the Movement of Democratic Socialist (MDS), elected a new leader Sunday with Mohammad Moada succeeding Ahmad Mestiri as secretary-general. Mestiri, who founded the party in 1978, resigned after his policy of support for President Zine Al Abidine Jha Ali failed to win the MDS a single seat during a general election in April. "Din Ali's Constitutional Democratic Assembly Party won all seats in the parliament."

Bourguiba palace to open for tourists

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia plans to convert the summer palace of former President Habib Bourguiba into a tourist complex, a government spokesman said Monday. The tourism ministry spokesman said the government would award the project to the company which offered the most attractive proposal. At least three foreign companies — Accor of France, Trossardi of Italy and General Mediterranean Holding of Luxembourg will compete for the contract, he added.

Eritreans optimistic about Atlanta peace talks

ATLANTA (AP) — The leader of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front said he is optimistic about the conclusion of preliminary peace talks, but said the civil war in Ethiopia probably would continue.

Isaia Afwerki said although Eritreans "have reason to believe they are getting close to a solution," another round of negotiations to end the 28-year war is unlikely for several months.

"If we agree and finish these preliminary negotiations, we will want to go back to Eritrea and do our homework for the next phase of the process," Afwerki said Sunday. "There should be enough time for everyone to prepare their positions."

Ethiopia's delegation did not

have any immediate comment. Since the talks began Thursday, there has been little public comment by either side.

With former President Jimmy Carter acting as an observer, the delegations are trying to arrange future peace talks.

The Eritreans are fighting for independence from the East African country. During the war, an estimated 1 million people have died in combat or in the famine that has resulted from blocked delivery of relief supplies.

Afwerki said that even though Carter has discussed the possibility of a cease-fire, the EPLF probably would continue fighting until substantive negotiations begin.

The groups took a break from

the negotiations Sunday, although Carter Centre spokeswoman Carrie Harmon said the former president met privately with both delegations.

She said the talks would continue through Tuesday, although Afwerki said they may last three or four more days.

The Soviet Union, chief military backer of President Mengistu Haile Mariam's government, has told the Ethiopian leader to seek peace with the insurgents.

Mengistu unveiled the latest peace plan, which accommodated many EPLF demands, after he was nearly overthrown by the country's military commanders demanding a rapid end to the Eritrean war.

Afwerki said the Atlanta peace

talks had not discussed ceasefire, a subject expected to come up in the next full round of talks which the EPLF leader said is expected to take place within six months.

"But as a matter of principle, we are prepared to discuss this," he said.

Afwerki, himself not directly taking part in the negotiations, said about 200 Ethiopian troops had either been killed or wounded in the past two weeks in low-level fighting with EPLF forces south of Eritrea's capital Asmara.

However, the fighting would not affect the talks here, he said. But he expressed concern that the government appeared it did not want to hold similar peace negotiations with another rebel

group fighting in Tigray province adjacent to Eritrea.

Since almost two weeks ago rebels of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), campaigning since 1975 to topple Mengistu, have repeatedly clashed with Ethiopian troops.

The insurgents have claimed to have captured a series of towns and killed hundreds of soldiers in the fighting which broke out after several months of lull in military activity there.

Both the Ethiopian government and the TPLF have said they will also meet to try to end the Tigray conflict, and the TPLF has already accepted Carter as a mediator in the proposed negotiations. No date nor venue have been set.

Israelis, Arabs wage war of spray cans, paint brushes

By Jack Residen
Reuters

ALANDIA REFUGEE CAMP, Occupied West Bank (R) — When night falls on the occupied territories, masked Palestinian youths start the next engagement in the war of spray cans and paint brushes.

Between the time activists of the Palestinian uprising scrawl the latest slogans and Israeli troops arrive to paint them over, residents learn everything from which collaborator has been punished to the next date for a general strike.

"We are sorry that slogans make walls look a mess. We realise it's ugly," said a 44-year-old Palestinian shopkeeper in a cubicle jammed with everything

from groceries to broken television sets.

"But the Shabab (young activists) must use this method. We don't have a radio station, we can't publish things in the press."

Much graffiti consists of slogans that have changed little during the 21 months Palestinians have been in revolt against Israeli rule in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

"We are a thorn in the throat of the occupation," boasts one from the Muslim fundamentalist group Hamas. "Women have a role in the struggle no less than men," says the Unified Leadership, the PLO structure that dominates the resistance.

Probably the commonest theme is the death toll — more than 600 Arabs so far. "Glory to our martyrs," says a line signed by Fateh and the Popular Front

for the Liberation of Palestine, two key groups in the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

But the graffiti most important to the revolt — and to the Israeli authorities trying to suppress it — are the instructions that appear overnight.

Key parts of printed underground communiques distributed in the occupied territories are scribbled across walls, listing new tactics, dates for strikes or the names of individuals alleged to be collaborating with Israeli forces.

"It's important for them because it deal with their lives," said a member of a human rights group involved in the refugee camps.

Israeli authorities are just as intent on eliminating the notices, terming the graffiti incitement. Under regulations enacted during the revolt, Israeli troops can

order anyone to paint over the writing.

The troops can be thorough — one group of Palestinians recounted how they were ordered to paint over Arabic lettering that included the name of the shop.

Morning patrols rouse sulken residents into the street to paint over the previous night's graffiti. Passers-by are told to find paint brushes with their identity papers held by the troops until they finish.

Beside a freshly painted wall, a man with a face of grey stubble stood in his pyjamas complaining that soldiers had forced their way into his home to demand he paint over slogans. White paint flecked his face and hair.

He had carried out the orders, but with a gesture of defiance. The face of Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Ara-

fat smiled out from a banned poster in the alley. "They only said 'writing,'" the man said.

Israeli troops on occasion have scrawled their own graffiti — less than polite comments on Arabs in refugee camps, or the skull-and-crossbones insignia of a unit stationed in the Occupied Gaza Strip.

In Gaza city, troops sprayed tar across walls, obliterating graffiti but leaving the congested streets of decrepit buildings even more oppressive.

But as soon as the evening darkness settles over the walls where Israeli troops have covered one set of slogans, the masked youths appear with spray cans to start again.

"It saves us the trouble of painting over the space so we can write new ones," said a Palestinian with a conspiratorial smile.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 77311-19

PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 Koran
15:40 Programmes review
15:45 News in French
15:50 News summary in Arabic
15:55 Local programme
16:00 Agricultural programme
16:05 News in Arabic
16:10 Programmes review
16:15 News in Arabic
16:20 Local programme
16:25 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO
17:30 A variety programme
17:35 News in French
17:40 News in Hebrew
17:45 News in Arabic
17:50 Paul Daniel's Magic Show
17:55 Simon & Simon
18:00 News in English
18:05 Act of Betrayal

PRAYER TIMES
04:54 Fajr
06:12 (Sunrise) Dhuha
12:32 Dhuhur
16:04 'Asr
18:52 Maghrib
20:18 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Swetich Tel. 810740.
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785, 68326.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757.
Terrasanta Church Tel. 622366.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772561.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Armenian Interdenominational Church Tel. 685326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
Temperatures will drop to become around the annual average. Winds will be northerly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly fresh and sea calm.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Amman Min./max. temp.
19/31
Agaba 25/39
Deserts 17/34
Jordan Valley 24/34

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 35, Agaba 41.5. Humidity readings: Amman 18 per cent, Agaba 22 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS
NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Tamm Abu Riqq 681967
Dr. Jamal Abu Bakr 746426
Dr. Abdul Majid Al Shara 791405
Dr. Walid Sabawneh 779997
Fatah pharmacy 65912
Ferdous pharmacy 703336
Al Azzam pharmacy 637055
Al Azzam pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yaacoub pharmacy 644945
Sunshine pharmacy 637660

ERBID:
Dr. Ali Al Omari (—)
Al Shamsa pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA:
Dr. Akram Haddad (—)

Khalish pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 630341
Fire Brigade 892226
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 845402
Traffic Police 863690
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 63390
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 877467
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 636381
Reprints 623101
Abdul Telephone Reprints 651101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 773111
Water Authority 680109
Jordan Electricity Authority 815035
Electric Power 636381
RJ Flight Information 88-53200
Queen Alia Int'l. Airport 88-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Husseini Medical Centre 613813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 642816
Alkhil Maternity, J. Amn. 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malha, J. Amman 630440
Palestine, Shmezzan 664714
Sunatana Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845846
Al-Munira Hospital 662727
The Islamic, Abadi 661717
Al-Ahli, Abadi 661646
Italian, Al-Mutajirun 771013
Al-Badr, J. Ashrafieh 775112/26
Amry, Merfa 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 0224050
Amal Hospital 674155
Zarga Govt. Hospital (09)98323
Zarga National Hospital (09)91071
Jin Shin Hospital (09)98372
ERBID:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)75555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)72775
Be Al Nidhes Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)34111

FOR THE TRAVELLER
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (06)3320-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
08:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
09:45 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:15 Geneva, London (RJ)
10:20 Jeddah (RJ)
10:30 Cairo (RJ)
10:35 Doha (RJ)
10:40 Kuwait (RJ)
10:45 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
10:50 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:20 Miami, Vienna (RJ)
11:45 Montreal, New York (RJ)
11

4,000 visitors expected at 2nd Petra Cultural festival

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanians are flocking to the ancient Nabatean city of Petra, in southern Jordan, not only to examine the architectural remains of the city, but also to enjoy a variety of cultural programmes held there within the Second Petra Cultural Festival which opened Sunday.

The Wadi Musa Cultural Club, which organised the festival for the second year, expects visitors within the five-day festival season to reach 4,000, up from 3,000 during last year's event.

The activities include lectures on the history of Petra, the history of Jordan and the Kingdom over the ages, according to the organisers.

The festival, which was formally opened by Minister of Youth Awad Khatibat deputising for Her Majesty Queen Noor, entails an Arabian horse parade, performances by folkloric troupes from Wadi Musa and Ma'an, a handicraft exhibition set up by the department of antiquities, a photo exhibition by the Jordanian Armed Forces, displaying the evolution and development of the Armed Forces since the outbreak of the Great Arab Revolt.

A spokesman for the club said that the festival also includes a comprehensive exhibition by the University of Jordan, and one displaying national costumes.

The festival, which was formally opened by Minister of Youth Awad Khatibat deputising for Her Majesty Queen Noor, entails an Arabian horse parade, performances by folkloric troupes from Wadi Musa and Ma'an, a handicraft exhibition set up by the department of antiquities, a photo exhibition by the Jordanian Armed Forces, displaying the evolution and development of the Armed Forces since the outbreak of the Great Arab Revolt.

The Ministry of Culture and Information is contributing to the festival by presenting a play and organising poetry reading sessions.

The idea for the festival came from a group of Wadi Musa undergraduates at the University of Jordan who were inspired by the success of the Jerash Festival for Culture and Arts held annually at the Gre-

co-Roman city of Jerash.

The Jerash Festival, launched nine years ago, was the brainchild of a group of voluntary students and staff at Yarmouk University.

According to the organisers, arrangements have been made for two children's plays and a children's entertainment programme hosted by the children of Wadi Musa.

Events take place at six various places in the ancient city itself and on the outskirts.

The minister of youth who himself opened the first festival last year said he was delighted to attend the event, and he paid tribute to the organisers and the various organisations which aim to make this year's festival a success.

Sharif Zaid receives Syrian minister

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — General matters related to Jordanian-Syrian Cooperation in land and maritime transport came under review here Monday at a meeting between Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and the visiting Syrian Minister of Transport Youssef Al Ahmad.

Ahmad briefed the prime minister, in the presence of Minister of Transport and Telecommunication Hikmat Al Khammash, on the outcome of the talks held here over the past few days to promote Jordanian-Syrian land, maritime and air transport through joint companies.

Ahmad and Khammash had co-chaired meetings by the general assemblies of the Land Transport and Maritime Transport Companies to discuss reports about operations in the past year and future plans.

The prime minister asked that the Syrian minister convey his greetings to Syrian Premier Mahmoud Al Zou'bi.

During their meetings here, the ministers of transport decided on measures to reactivate the Hijaz



Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Monday receives visiting Syrian Minister of Transport Youssef Al Ahmad at the Prime Ministry. Also present is Minister of Transport and Telecommunication Hikmat Al Khammash (Petra photo)

Railway line for land transport between Jordan and Syria.

They also discussed the final stages of a scheme by which goods transported by sea from the Far East and destined for Syria can be received at Aqaba and then transported over land to Syrian destinations and vice-versa.

The joint Jordanian-Syrian Transport Company's fleet of trucks and the reactivated Hijaz

Railway can be made to contribute to this operation, according to the joint committee.

The Syrians are also interested in making use of services offered by Royal Jordanian in terms of training pilots of civilian aircraft and conducting maintenance on aircraft at workshops near the Queen Alia International Airport.

Also Monday, the Syrian minister called at the Queen Alia

International Airport and inspected a workshop where maintenance work on Syrian civilian aircraft is conducted.

The Syrian minister, who was accompanied on the visit by Khammash, had a meeting with Royal Jordanian Director General and Chief Executive Officer Husam Abu Ghazaleh, who briefed him on the RJ operations and development.

Ayoub inspects Irbid supply situation

IRBID (Petra) — The Minister of Supply's warehouses are abound with food supplies and animal feed sufficient for the Kingdom's needs for a long period of time, Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayoub said Monday.

The Ministry has adopted a policy allowing the private sector to provide foodstuffs to complement the role played by the ministry in this regard, Ayoub said during an inspection tour of Irbid and a number of regions in the northern part of the country.

The Ministry of Supply, he added, intervenes whenever intervention is necessary to put an end to manipulation of prices or illegal commercial dealings.

As to the animal feed, he said, it is being made available in big amounts and distributed fairly to various farmers.



Ibrahim Ayoub
Ayoub, who met with Irbid Governor Jawdat Shoul and other officials from the Supply

Department here, announced that two branches for the Civil Service Consumer Corporation, benefitting government employees and their families, will be opened soon at Koura and Bani Kinaneh districts within the Irbid Governorate.

The two branches, which will be operational before the end of 1989, will help to provide basic commodities to the local population at reasonable prices, the minister said in his statement

after the meeting with the governor.

Shoul had briefed the minister on the general supply situation in Irbid region in the presence of Radi Ibrahim, the ministry's secretary general, and other officials.

Ayoub later made an inspection tour of supply departments, a Ministry of Supply warehouse, a grain silo and refrigeration store operated by the Ministry of Supply.

QAF makes breakthrough in educational awareness

Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times staff writer

AMMAN — As a result of its continued efforts to supplement the development of Jordan's welfare services, the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAF) has made a breakthrough in the field of educational awareness as indicated in an increase of demand for educational facilities in the southern district of Karak.

"There has been an increased demand on the part of local communities to meet the need for more kindergartens and vocational training facilities for women. This represents a marked change in the attitudes of people in the communities with which we have been dealing," according to Dr. Ali Othman, technical advisor to Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, chairman of the board of trustees of the fund.

"Previously people were unaware of the need of certain educational facilities. Now this state of unawareness has been reversed to one of outright demands. Most local communities are demanding the establishment of kindergartens for their children and training facilities for women, who need to acquire certain skills in order to keep up with all the changes our society is going through," Othman said.

Othman attributed the change in people's attitudes to the physical presence of the fund's social service centres "in the very midst of the local communities," which have created awareness.

He believes that the QAF centres have bridged the gap between "the people" and "officialdom."

"As a result of the mode of interaction between ourselves and the people in these communities, as the result of the services we rendered to them, we have been able to enter a new stage of development. In this stage the people are willing to actively contribute to the development and expansion of the services we have been rendering," Othman says.

While before members of local communities expected private and governmental agencies and organisations to work on their behalf, they are now willing to play an active role in the establishment of kindergartens and vocational training facilities for

women in their communities.

New policy

In response to the new set of demands the QAF has emerged with a new policy, which is to expand beyond the walls of its existing centres. "The QAF now intends to be present in every local community that is willing to contribute the place and furniture to set up kindergartens and/or vocational training centres."

During a recent visit to Karak, the QAF created a formula which would distribute the input for the creation of kindergartens and vocational centres between the community members and the QAF.

Several communities were willing to provide the place in which a kindergarten could be established.

According to Othman, it was agreed that the QAF would assist in the recruitment of teachers from the local community, would initially supervise the educational programmes and would provide the necessary educational material.

The land and furniture will be provided by local voluntary organisations and the University of Mu'ta's Department of Education will provide the training of teachers and deal with other technical aspects.

"We have already been asked to expand and improve the kindergarten in the town of Mu'ta and our engineer went there for this purpose. Very soon we hope to be able to accommodate more of the pre-school children of that area," Othman said. He added that the president of Mu'ta University, Dr. Ali Mahafza, "has been just as enthusiastic as we are about this project in the Karak district and has indicated that technical assistance would be forthcoming for the project from Mu'ta University."

This formula was described by Othman as a "new step in community development where people are not just recipients of services but active participants in the developmental progress of their own communities."

He believes that this "new" phenomenon of active participation of people will soon become a trend "where QAF centres exist."

Tafleh has already begun

showing an interest in pursuing a similar course of action and Othman expects that "soon Ma'raq and Irbid will make similar demands."

"If this trend spreads there more demands will also be made of the Ministry of Education and rising demand for education on various levels will be another challenge that will have to be met by QAF and the Ministry of Education," Othman said.

The QAF has a great deal of experience in the training of kindergarten teachers and expects that the demand for trained kindergarten teachers will increase in the near future.

Zein Al Sharaf Compound

In an attempt to pre-empt the expected need for trained teachers, the QAF intends to establish the Zein Al Sharaf Compound for Development within the next two years. The compound is intended to be autonomous of the QAF, but its aim would be complementary to that of the fund, according to Othman.

"Among the main tasks of the compound will be to train kindergarten teachers as well as mothers. In addition to these tasks will be the training of community development workers and the training of trainers in the various skills needed by women in the various communities," Othman explained.

He added that the role of the QAF within the next two years vis-a-vis the compound would be to "prepare training packages needed for the training of kindergarten teachers, community development workers and trainers for vocational skills." The compound would also be utilised as a meeting place for seminars, conferences and workshops for all those concerned in the development of local communities.

Summing up the action taken by the QAF in response to popular demand for increased educational facilities in Karak, Othman said: "The QAF was quick to recognise the change in attitudes of people towards self-help and has embarked on a policy of expanding its services to eventually reach as many local communities as possible on the basis of active participation of the community itself."

Assad opens Muslim-Christian dialogue on religious pluralism

ISTANBUL (J.T.) — Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad opened here Monday the 6th Muslim-Christian Consultation entitled "religious pluralism" on behalf of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and delivered the prince's address to the four-day meeting.

In his address, the Crown Prince dwelt on religious pluralism which provides for people of different religions and faiths to live together and interact at all levels without fear of prejudice.

"The phenomenon of religious pluralism," said Prince Hassan, "is neither novel nor confined to any specific part of the world. However, in the Arab Islamic World it has been an integral part of the social and cultural tradition," he added.

He noted that under Islam reli-

gious minorities have not been merely tolerated but their members made a major contribution to the Islamic civilisation.

Referring to the meaning of tolerance in Islam, the prince said that in accordance with the Jordanian constitution all Jordanians are equal before the law with no distinction between them in rights and duties, though they may differ in language, religion and ethnicity.

He said that the state ensures security and equal opportunities for all. It guarantees religious freedoms and provides protection for minorities to exercise their religious rites provided they do not disrupt public order.

Prince Hassan added: "In conformity with the constitution, and with a pragmatic consideration to Jordan's position in the area, the

Kingdom has maintained a consistent and coherent approach. We have aimed for peace and social harmony on the basis of a centrist approach to our contemporary problems. The politics of the middle ground has been our motto, steering a deliberate middle course which has been Jordan's response to the politics of extremes."

A total of 40 notable personalities from Jordan, Switzerland, Turkey, Egypt, Greece, the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Morocco, Lebanon, Pakistan and Tunisia are participating in the meetings which were organised by the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research, Al Al Bait Foundation, in cooperation with the Greek Centre in Switzerland, and hosted by the Turkish government.

Committee reviews preparations for conference on safeguarding the future

AMMAN (J.T.) — Detailed arrangements for a regional conference to be held here next month on safeguarding the future were reviewed Monday by a committee charged with preparing for the meetings.

The three-day conference, to open on Oct. 2, has been organised by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) in cooperation with Noor

Al Hussein Foundation (NHFF), and will be attended a group of Arab and foreign countries.

The delegates will discuss three working papers dealing with migration and distribution of population, women in development and relations between the communities, immigration and the environment.

The preparatory committee groups representatives of the

health, social development, planning, information, tourism, municipal and rural affairs and the environment and foreign ministries as well as the General Federation of Jordanian Women, the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, the University of Jordan, Jordanian Business and Professional Women's Club, the NHFF and the Greater Amman Municipality.

Committee set up to solve problems related to land exploitation, irrigation

MA'AN (Petra) — A joint committee comprising representatives of the Ministries of Water and Irrigation, Agriculture and the Department of Lands and Survey, was set up Monday to deal with outstanding problems related to the exploitation of land and irrigation in the Ma'an Governorate, in southern Jordan.

The committee was formed by Minister of Water and Irrigation Mohammad Saleh Al Kellani, Ministry of Agriculture Secretary General Sami Sunnas and Mr. Badri Al Mulgi, director general of the Lands and Survey Department.

and engineers to step up the land survey and land appreciation work, with the purpose of specifying the types of land for farming and others for housing projects within a government-sponsored programme designed to help fight off desertification and increase agricultural production.

Following the meetings and the inspection tour, Kellani visited the Ghweirah, Rum and Disi areas in south east Jordan where he inspected a number of agricultural products and was briefed on the water situation in the region.

Kellani urged local governors

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artists Khaled Ghawamneh and Abdullah Kamaleh, and the Syrian artist Wafaa Al Maari at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.

★ An anti-smoking exhibition which includes paintings and posters showing the harmful effects of smoking, at Philadelphia Hotel.

FILM

★ A documentary on "1988 Clio Awards" showing a selection of the winners for best commercials, at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

PETRA CULTURAL FESTIVAL

EXHIBITIONS

★ Handicrafts exhibition, which includes sculptures, embroidery, sand ornaments and woodwork, at the Tourism Square.

★ The National Heritage Exhibition, which includes knivewear, scarves and simple agricultural tools used locally, at the Tourism Square.

★ The Archaeological Treasures of the Sahara Exhibition inside the old city of Petra.

★ A photo exhibition on Petra inside the old city of Petra.

★ The Armed Forces Exhibition, including photos and posters depicting the armed forces development.

★ A comprehensive art exhibition, held by the University of Jordan, includes paintings, photos and sculptures at the Visitors Centre.

★ An exhibition of oriental artifacts and folkloric costumes at the Tourism Square.

LECTURE

★ A lecture entitled "Petra antiquities through ages" by Dr. Majahid Al Mahafza — 3:00 p.m.

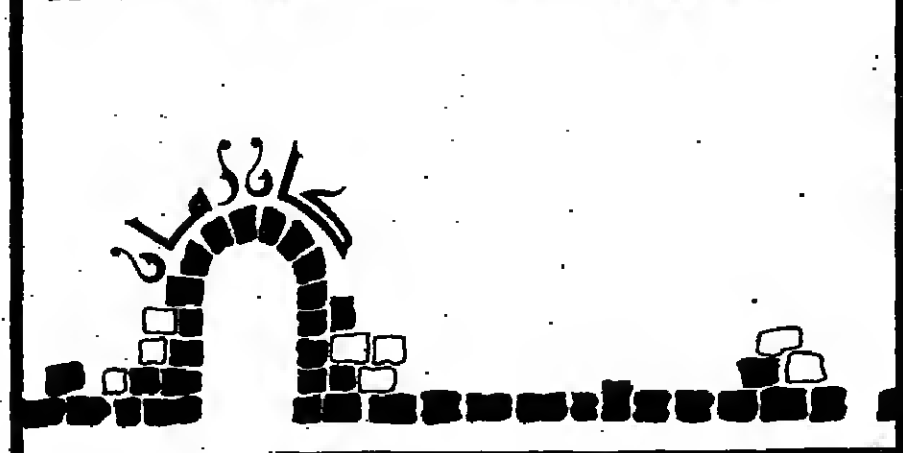
THEATRE

★ A Jordanian play by the Ministry of Culture theatre group at the Boys' Secondary School Theatre — 4:30 p.m.

FOLKLORE

★ Folkloric shows by the National Troupe for Folkloric Arts, Ma'an Folkloric Troupe and the Ma'an University Orchestra at Al Harath Theatre — 8:30 p.m.

Kan Zaman ... A Place In Time



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Step by step

JUDGING by the number of candidates for the Nov. 8 national elections — about 1,000 for the 80 seats — the country is clearly thirsty for active parliamentary life. It is doubtful that so many candidates would survive the next few weeks as many are expected to leave the race in favour of others after they make a closer assessment of their chances of getting elected. But even if less than one third of the candidates remain in the race, the proportion of candidates to seats would still be high. This entire picture would suggest that the tempo of the elections will be hotter than ever with many difficult issues dominating the campaigns.

One would suspect that in view of the economic hardships confronting the country, bread and butter issues may end up receiving the lion's share of the electorate's attention and concern. Still it will be impossible to avoid high pitched political issues, including ways and means to make future parliamentary system more operational and viable. The subject of political parties will certainly be debated over and over again within and without the context of the envisaged national charter and will dominate the political scene before and after the elections. There is no way to escape from such subjects and the easier they are discussed in a sober and moderate manner, the better the opportunities would be for making rational and balanced judgments on them. And while there are still opportunities to make initial verdicts on this subject of political parties, it would be prudent not to get carried away by it and start the process of political parties proliferation that could end up dividing the people as irrational and dangerous basis.

At this early stage, which is experimental, the Kingdom would be better served by no more than two political parties under whose wide umbrellas other splinter political thoughts and perspectives could find accommodation, provided they are motivated by genuine concern for the country. Out of concern for the future of political parties in the country one must at all times remain reasonable, moderate and balanced in articulating the platforms of the projected political parties. It would be self-defeating to accelerate this process before the country has an opportunity to gauge each step along the way. The step by step approach is so vital that the country could stumble in any faster pace.



Zaki - Al Ra'i

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

JORDANIAN Arabic dailies gave wide coverage Monday to King Hussein's talks with South Yemeni president designed to bolster bilateral cooperation and to enhance inter-Arab solidarity. Al Ra'i daily said that the talks were aimed at establishing very solid basis for future projects and joint endeavours. Both leaders made statements at the Royal Court meeting voicing support for the Palestinian uprising and backing for the oppressed people's steadfastness at all levels and with all available means, said the paper. The views of the King and the president about Lebanon, Iraq, joint Arab action and other matters of national interest were identical and their words indicated a clear determination to pursue efforts and serious work to serve Arab causes, the paper continued. We are confident concluded the paper that Attas' visit to Jordan and his talks with the King will pave the way for a new era of fruitful relationship that will have its lasting effect on pan-Arab action at all levels.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily is critical of attitudes displayed by a number of government schools in the country with regard to extra expenses required for purchasing sports wear or educational aids and other materials. Salah Abdul Samad says that men and women teachers in government schools should realise that students come mostly from limited income families unable to purchase high quality sports wear or no sports wear at all. The writer says that in some cases teachers would give higher grades to students who are able to manage to purchase the required materials and frown on those who cannot. Financial standards of students should never serve as a criteria to differentiate between one student and another in terms of treatment by teachers or grades, says the writer. He noted that the present economic adaptation programme adopted by Jordan applies to schools in the Kingdom, especially government schools which gave education to low and limited income students. The writer says that the teachers' behaviour in this matter should serve as an example for the students so they can better understand the current economic situation and accept and abide by the ongoing rationalisation programmes.

Al Rastour daily praised the formation of a higher ministerial committee to supervise ongoing efforts to promote ties between South Yemen and Jordan. The paper said that the committee's activities and programmes are bound to reflect the spirit that prevailed at the meetings between the South Yemeni president and King Hussein and translate the thoughts and ideas brought up for discussion. The paper referred to statement by King Hussein and the Yemeni leader and said that they both reflected the two leaders' views concerning Palestine, the Gulf, Lebanon and solidarity among the Arab countries. It said that the fact that both leaders set up the joint committee reflects their concern to implement their ideas and their plans to serve the Jordanian and South Yemeni people.

Marketing recipe needs an additional spice — politics

By Samir Ghawi

ACADEMICALLY, a marketing strategy should be founded on four Ps, called the marketing mix, of Product, Place, Price and Promotion.

The country or businesses which rightly "cooks" the above ingredients into an appealing dish would undoubtedly succeed but, those which know the fifth P — "gravy" — can prove more profitable and powerful.

The fifth P is Politics. It is the pepper that arouses the craving and makes the "meal" more than an appetiser.

It's still early in the day to talk of a "mansef" but surely some "doctors of economy" wouldn't mind operating on the issue of marketing which, in Jordan, has become a boiling pot as the steam for agricultural and industrial exports is gushing forth.

Contrary to the logical style of writing (or a lawyer's defence), which blows a strong argument at the end, or near that point of a case, I stand on solid ground now to cite some examples that show that the private sector's role is important but that the government's role (politics) is equally important in the science of marketing.

The United States, the mighty economic power which not only knows how to "mixup the four Ps" but also the whole world — especially the Third World — is waging a fierce political war against India, Brazil, South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore and other countries in addition to Japan and some European nations; accusing them of creating stumbling barriers to free trade.

Whichever country is right or wrong, the political leverage, either for domestic or international reasons, is everywhere regardless of supply and demand or any other economic curves.

Even major banks and export credit corporations swing with the political wind as they evaluate the risk of cross-border exposure highly.

Probably the political war is more disguised as economic, but the fact remains that all governments without exception intervene in the local and international markets in some form or another. Even in Britain, a government body still has the power to pass or block private sector mergers or acquisitions which may threaten national interest. Moreover, the far-reaching British free-market policies are not totally bright as broad economic sectors are reeling from the negative effects of high interest rates, flying pound and high trade deficit among many various disadvantages.

Talking of the Middle East, can anybody imagine the absence of politics, religion and security aspects from the daily life of the

inhabitants there? The triangle of religion, politics and security not only tops the thinking of the people but also blends in economic analysis and behaviour which makes a free-market policy simply a dream.

The "government" flows in the veins of all Arabs. They cannot but look to it as the daddy who cares, guides, punishes or restricts their activities. If not in one country, the description fits in another making any out-of-government approach doomed.

What's the solution?

Admitting that we are politically-minded, security-minded and religiously-minded and start working under this three-colour umbrella without implementing academic texts to the letter.

The head of UNCTAD last week blasted the economic principle of currency devaluation, prescribed in textbooks and sold at IMF and World Bank drug stores, saying that it is not the sole cure to resume growth.

Earlier, the chief of GATT warned of increasing global tension resulting from "economic" wars as each country heightens its political aggressiveness to defend its national and international image.

Jordanians should know better how to tailor their resources with their needs under variable and inevitable circumstances without shunning experiences of experts or world think-tanks. Jordanians should also draw a new economic baseline without drawing on past performance as everyone realises that the climate which prevailed throughout the previous years was dependent on or influenced by internal or regional factors ranging from top-sensitive political developments to importation of "cleaning expertise."

What's next?

The question which obviously implies the future echoes the question which was raised last year during a heated debate at the Amman Chamber of Commerce.

Are the Jordanian economic policies socialist? capitalist or what?

I remember leaning in my chair to what Dr. Khalil Al Salem had said. He suggested keeping Jordan a "mixture of all" because that has proven the most beneficial to the Kingdom. For sure, Dr. Al Salem is far aloft to hear my comment which I

would emphasise by stressing: yes for privatisation. Yes for personal initiatives. But also a big YES for a solid and an effective government role ... especially in marketing.

Jordanian products should be thoroughly "examined" by the government laboratories to ensure internationally-accepted standards for them.

The Jordanian price-tag should be "recommended" by the government after local and regional monitoring of costs, profits and competition noting that some neighbouring industries are government-owned or receive government subsidies.

The Jordanian selling outlets (places) should be government-guided to ensure larger earnings of foreign exchange.

No Jordanian entity can run a promotion campaign for long in overseas markets but surely the government can collectively push Jordanian products.

The ability and enthusiasm of the Jordanian private sector is unquestionable but the government pulling and pushing is vital. And, if somebody recites the symphony of government incapacity of any nature, the popular song is putting the right people in the right seats to form an outstanding choir.

Assuming that my argument, defended by the aforementioned "war example," is semi-convincing, what is the percentage of political and religious space in an Arab mind? And would that mind free the economy from these dimensions being daily drummed in radio programmes and newspapers.

A reflection of people thinking can be clearly seen on the social scene. Political issues make lively gatherings or dedicated groups. Religious topics draw friends, neighbours and knowledgeable parties. Yet, except for the recent financial instability, economic matters rarely are the bases of informal groups or parties. On the contrary, economy is usually endorsed to either politics or religion.

A Jordanian importer had an excellent relation with a South Korean supplier of second-hand car spare parts. The long honeymoon ran into trouble and ceased because the South Korean came up with a P6 (sixth P) mix that spoiled the broth. Here is the story.

The exporter sent the Jordanian some spare parts but the consignment also included for the first time large-size nude photos which the religious Jordanian considered pornography (P6) and not promotion (P4). So the business ... whoops. P6 can be nice but settling for P5 can prove nicer.

Groundwork is laid for a Palestinian economy

By Jackson Diehl

BEIT SAHOUR — Israeli-occupied West Bank — The Palestinian uprising has begun to produce far-reaching economic changes in both the occupied territories and Israel.

Since the outbreak of the rebellion in December 1987, attention has focused on the severe economic hardships it has caused Palestinians and the recession it has helped create in Israel.

Yet well into its second year, the uprising, or intifada, also has begun to reshape the structure of the Palestinian economy, separating it from that of the Jewish state in ways that some economists say may be irreversible.

In many sectors, the intifada is changing what Palestinians make and where they sell it, and not all of them are suffering from it. A few are even getting rich from the revolt.

Although Israeli experts tend to discount the new West Bank businesses as economically insignificant, they agree with Palestinian activists that the shift is helping to lay the material and psychological groundwork for the independence of the occupied territories.

"The intifada is giving people an opportunity to cleanse themselves economically, to break connections with Israel," said Samir Hulaileh, a prominent West Bank activist and economist who also is a member of the Palestinian-run Economic Development Group.

"Before, some businessmen would have been against the creation of two states," he said. "Now, they have economic reasons as well as political reasons to support it."

Overall, family incomes and economic activity in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip dropped by 40 to 50 per cent last year from their 1987 levels, as strikes, demonstrations and Israeli restrictions disrupted every area of activity.

But Palestinian economists say that the territories have made up about 10 per cent of the drop this year by adjusting to the new conditions and capitalising on a Palestinian boycott of Israeli goods.

Mr. Hulaileh said the construction industry was working at from 30 to 50 per cent of its capacity, while key agricultural exports like

olive oil, tomatoes and citrus had been badly hurt.

At the same time, he said, there has been a huge increase in small-scale agricultural production meant for local consumption.

The number of egg-laying chickens has tripled since 1987, to 350,000, while the number of milk cows grew to an estimated 14,000 this year, from 10,500 before the intifada, he said. There has been similar growth in local production of feed grain.

"In 1987 having a cow was a loss, because it was cheaper to buy subsidised milk from Tnuva," the Israeli company, Mr. Hulaileh said. "Now people don't want to buy the Israeli milk so they are getting their own cows."

Similar adjustments are taking place in many of about 1,100 small- and medium-sized manufacturing businesses operating in the West Bank. Until the intifada, many small textile workshops run by Palestinians subcontracted all of their work from Israeli firms, which took advantage of their cheaper labour and more efficient shops.

Now, in Beit Sahour, most of the Arab-run textile shops have cut back on work for Israel and begun diverting production to the local market. Some have dropped Israeli contracts entirely.

"We are using more conservative colours and longer hems," said Amjad Jarayse, the operator of a textile workshop in Beit Sahour with 50 workers, as he pointed at a rack of new clothes targeted for the West Bank Arab market. "We used to do 100 per cent for Israel. Now it's 60 per cent for Israel and 40 per cent for local stores."

Despite his new production for the local market, Mr. Jarayse says his overall business is down by at least a third. Still, he says that he plans to expand his local production — and to continue boycotting the Israeli tax authority. "It's a challenge now to hold on," he said. "Until now we have been steadfast, not out of fear but because of principle."

Palestinian economists offer a number of other examples of shifts from Israeli-dominated to locally directed production. In Hebron, the Alshark Electrode Company, one of the largest firms in the West Bank, has managed to avoid layoffs by expanding from the export of specialised wiring to the local marketing of

nails and bailing wire."

One Ramallah firm has been producing Royal Crown Cola to substitute for Israeli-bottled Coke, which has all but disappeared from the territories. Another will soon begin marketing pasteurised milk from local farms.

The Palestinians say the economic shifts have the effect both of sustaining the intifada and setting the stage for economic development independent of Israel.

"Many of the household industries that have started, like raising chickens, are inefficient and even counterproductive," said Mr. Hulaileh. "But they serve a purpose, because they keep families going during the intifada, when the strikes and the loss of work in Israel means every shekel is important. We have to be prepared economically for the possibility that the intifada could go on for a long time."

In the longer run, Mr. Hulaileh added, Palestinian sovereignty over the West Bank and Gaza would mean the end of economic integration with Israel and the creation of two separate markets.

Economists point out that the process of economic disengagement is well under way in Israel as well as in the West Bank. Since the beginning of the intifada, Israeli industries long dependent on Arab workers from the territories have begun modernising plants and raising wages so as to minimise the use of the Arabs. The Israeli construction industry, one of the sectors most dependent on the cheap imported labour, has increased its worker productivity by 30 per cent in the last 18 months, reversing a trend of two decades.

Despite such changes, some Palestinian experts say the territories are nowhere near a position where they could achieve economic independence.

"We need a lot of projects," said Kamal Hassouni, the general manager of Alshark Electrode Company. "Until now we covered only 6 per cent of our needs, while Israel supplied 92 per cent. We need glass, commercial leather, fiberglass, plastics. We can't make a radio or a battery here, or even assemble the two."

Israeli experts also discount the Palestinian aspirations for economic independence, saying the shifts toward import substitution

in food and light industry are inefficient and self-destructive.

"If they think they can cut themselves off from the Israeli economy and pursue independent development, it's premature and the whole approach is childish," said Meron Benvenisti, one of the

leading Israeli experts on the West Bank. "This is not economic development, it is an economy mobilised for political aims."

Still, Mr. Benvenisti acknowledged that the Palestinian strategy was yielding significant

political gains. "The psychological effect of the effort to make the economy independent of Israel is extremely important," he said. "The effort is in itself admirable and is a building block for the future. This is one element in the Palestinians' nation-building" — Washington Post.

Israel's war of the cards

By Ian Black

JUST past the Erez roadblock at the entrance to the Gaza Strip, a large and heavily guarded Israeli army compound has sprung up where the sand dunes begin to sprawl lazily westwards towards the sea.

At the edge of the compound, inside a barbed-wire fence, canvas awnings have been erected to shelter Palestinians from the searing summer sun as they wait to receive the new identity cards they now need to venture north of Erez.

Only a few weeks ago the sand under the awnings was packed for hours on end. Now the site is almost deserted as there are fewer and fewer takers for Israel's latest bureaucratic bait: the intifada goes on.

Since August 18, male Gazans entering Israel on business — mostly to do menial jobs Jews will no longer take — have been required to hold plastic ID cards which carry a computer-readable strip with information about its bearer.

The move was introduced to apply economic pressure to the masses of Palestinians without whose at least passive co-operation the uprising cannot continue.

Sixty thousand Gazans, 10 per cent of the strip's population, worked daily in Israel before the intifada began, and often during it as well. Now a major battle — for control and jobs, but not hearts or minds — is under way.

The cards themselves are innocuous enough — with the bearer's photograph, name, ID number, address, and a coloured rectangle representing different zones. People with criminal or security records are not given them.

Possession of a card shows that the recipient has passed every conceivable hurdle that Israeli bureaucracy can create: taxes and licences of all kinds must have

been paid and obtained, and the Shin Bet security service given its approval.

"When I came here last week to get my card, they told me first I had to go to the Shin Bet offices in Gaza," said one man, standing forlornly outside the Erez compound.

"And at the end they sent me back here and then said I owed 8,000 shekels in taxes. I can't pay that. So I have no card."

A friend from Rafah had his regular ID card confiscated by soldiers months ago when he refused to clear burning tyres and stone barriers off a street. He too, failed to get his card.

The cards — 70,000 have been issued — are the latest attempt by the Israelis to strangle the intifada with red tape where physical repression has so patently failed.

But the ingenuity of the uprising has defeated the method — so far. When the cards were first handed out and the recipients' names called out by soldiers they were quickly noted by young militants.

The same evening it was easy for the Striking Forces, shadowy groups of masked youths who implement the discipline of the intifada, to confiscate the cards. Exceptions are made for those with medical or other pressing reasons to enter Israel. But the general drift is clear.

Palestinian sources say that at least half the cards issued have already been confiscated, mostly with the agreement of their bearers, who recognise a moral and social pressure that is hard to withstand. Those who do not have been beaten.

To strengthen its hand, the underground PLO-backed United National Leadership of the Uprising has called for an indefinite strike, now entering its third week. Some breadwinners are already desperate, but few dare to openly challenge the consensus.

Hardship will start to bite if the war of the cards remains undecided for much longer. The line between determination and desperation is a fine one. "I can manage on my savings for a month or two," said Mr. Abu Ali, a 38-year-old father of eight from Khan Yunis. "And I believe in God."

Activists accuse the Shin Bet of distributing fake leaflets calling for an end to the strike in an attempt to confuse the people and to undermine their faith in the leadership.

But some also question the wisdom of the boycott strategy altogether, arguing — close to heresy — that the PLO, far away in its Tunis headquarters, is simply unaware of the harsh reality of life in Gaza. "It's not enough to ask people to strike," one nationalist said. "You have to explain why."

Many Gazans hope to get by on extra rations from the UNRWA relief agency, but the organisation is already badly strapped for cash and says, sensibly, that there is no long-term substitute for regular employment in Israel.

Economic necessity may yet force a drastic change of tack. And even simple people understand that there is an alternative to fatalism. "We will accept the cards," says Mr. Abu Ali, "if they are issued to all, without discrimination."

If such a face-saving decision were to be adopted by the United National Leadership and endorsed by the PLO, it could provide an honourable exit from a situation in which there are no clear winners.

Palestinians have seen enough gains in the past 20 months to know when to make a tactical retreat if the price of attrition is too high. "In politics," quips one leading activist, "if you are in enough trouble, you can always change defeat into victory." — The Guardian.

India's film stars hope to extend make-believe world to polls

By Moses Mamoharan
Reporter

BOMBAY — Stars of the world's biggest film industry are shaping up for a new role in Indian politics.

Many have already taken sides between Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party and a grand opposition alliance that will contest general elections which must be called by the end of the year.

None of them, however, have done it as decisively as Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao, chief minister of the southern state of Andhra Pradesh, who launched his campaign on behalf of the alliance by resuming a screen career with a film called "Vishwanathra."

Rao is the latest in a line of south Indian film figures to realise the potential of the cinema in conveying a political message to the masses, director Parvati Menon said.

The industry produces more than 700 films a year.

Rao was the second film star to become chief minister of an Indian state. The late M.G. Ramachandran ruled neighbouring Tamil Nadu for 10 years after quitting a fabulous film career in which he played mainly Robin Hood-type roles.

"NTR (Rao) and MGR (Ramachandran) acted in films that were acceptable to the whole family, and especially women, by acting in mythological or socially oriented films," Menon said.

It was an important difference

from the north, where the political appeal of Hindi stars was limited because of screen images of angry young men as romantic heroes who used violence to correct injustice.

"A political message can only be conveyed to the people through explicitly delineated roles, of a Robin Hood who helps the poor or a Hindu god who can do no wrong... After all, 75 per cent of our people are illiterate and you have to be blatant about it," said Menon.

She said southern politicians also realised the importance of the medium as a way to get a message across to rural areas, where the cinema is the main source of entertainment for 70 per cent of the population.

In Tamil Nadu, the chief minis-

ter is a well-known scriptwriter, and the leader of the largest opposition group is a screen goddess who once starred opposite Ramachandran.

Their glamour and grip on the people resulted earlier this year in a humiliating electoral defeat for Gandhi, who failed to help Congress win power in the state.

It is this which could make "Vishwanathra" a potent weapon in the polls, although its effectiveness in the north is uncertain, even with the top Bombay actress picked by Rao to co-star.

Due for release during the campaign, the film is about a social reformer who is a teacher of Hinduism's ideal king, Rama.

It aims at extending Rao's popularity to the north from a southern base.

Rao, an imposing seffron-clad figure, plays the title role in his first film since quitting movies in 1983 to enter politics and help the party he founded win state elections.

Southerners, especially in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, have been his fans for more than 35 years during which he mainly played Hindu gods in his 320 films.

The film could also counter in some measure what the opposition alleges is Gandhi's attempt to use India's state-run television for projecting his image across barely accessible territory.

Gandhi can also depend on a cluster of top stars led by Amitabh Bachchan, India's highest-paid actor and the reigning idol of the Hindi-language film world.

But Bachchan, said to command a fee far in excess of the two million rupees (\$125,000) top stars charge per film, is not likely to contest the Allahabad parliamentary seat he quit last year.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters from its readers. Letters to the Editor should be legible preferably typewritten with the name and address of the writer. Names, however, can be withheld if the writer wishes so. Letters will be edited to style.

Handwritten signature or note at the bottom of the page.



Teta, a large-puppet in the Japanese 'Raku' style

Wafa Qusous:

An artist in the making

By Nelly Lama
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan has just witnessed the return of one of its major pioneers in the field of puppetry, Wafa Qusous. After having been awarded her Master's degree from Connecticut College, and having set up, directed and performed a number of puppet plays that received great acclaim from critics, instructors and puppeteers alike, and finally her audience of little children, Wafa returns to us with great passion and a need to impart to others all the knowledge and experience that she acquired during her stay in the United States. Opportunities for that are already opening up for this generous and giving artist.

Her training was mainly in theatre, acting, directing, playwriting, set design, dramaturgy, drama for marionettes, scene design, dance, movement, voice, improvisation and all aspects of the puppet theatre: the hand puppet, the rug puppet, the shadows, the marionettes, etc. "Every semester the concentration was on one theme," she explains "one had to build his own marionette, produce and perform his own play. We even performed an improvisation of 'Comedia dell'Arte'. We made our own masks to which we gave a leather patina to appear closer to the original. I played the part of 'Colombina'. It was great fun and very educational."

Part of her training included touring, performing and attending live performances.

Wafa wonders about the earlier history of shadow puppetry in this part of the world. Did Jordan and Palestine ever adapt or contribute to the well known Bagdad shadow theatre in early Islam? She would appreciate the help of anyone here who can instruct her further. The earliest puppets she remembers seeing in Jordan were Janset Shami's. Mrs. Shami is a Turk, married to a Jordanian, who for many years was known for her success in handicrafts as well as puppetry. Her puppets appeared on television reaching out and impressing many children and adults.

Margaret Maldjian is another creative woman who used shadow puppetry within her plays, and who presented her own puppet theatre. Helped by her mother who makes the puppets and dresses them up, Margaret dug into the intensive experience that she had acquired through many years of hard work, performing magical plays that children seem to always remember. In fact, to most people in Jordan, her name is synonymous to "Drama."

Wafa Qusous did contribute, in the past, with her performance of an episode of 'One Thousand and One Nights' performed at the Haya Cultural Centre. The show travelled across Jordan passing by every interested school. Another play was 'The Adventures of Zaidour'. Its great success launched it abroad to Bahrain during the Bahraini-Jordanian Cultural Week. Bahraini Television taped



Wafa and Zeta looking into the mother of pearl chest

and brought it. Wafa then held a puppet workshop there. Wafa could not settle for the short experience she had acquired; she attended an intensive course of puppetry in The Polka Children's Theatre and The Puppet Theatre of London but was constantly thriving to learn some more.

Scholarship

While Wafa was working at the Royal Cultural Centre as head of programming, waiting to build a puppet theatre there, she found, at last, the long-awaited opportunity for professional study. She was awarded a scholarship by Her Majesty Queen Noor that started her on a long quest for the right institution that would fill her in on all the facets and techniques of puppetry. Finally, Connecticut College was chosen and she dived right in, assimilating and experiencing all the knowledge and experience she could in the vast world of the puppet theatre. They worked seven days a week non stop which suited Wafa just fine. "Teachers came from all over the world, we attended performances by puppeteers from all over the United States and Europe and other parts of the world as far away as Sri Lanka. They performed for children and adults e.g. a political puppet play. It was very informative."

In her five public performances, at the University of Connecticut, and those she performed at both the Maine and the Boston Festivals, professional puppeteers attended. Wafa felt that this was her opportunity to introduce them to our Middle Eastern culture. She therefore worked on an oriental subject, after an intense research into Arab folk tales. Throughout her work, she kept in mind the Western mentality of her prospective viewers for, "Every good performer always takes his audience into consideration," she believes. She squeezed in some Arabic words into her English text to make it more colourful. Her advisers helped her track the items that she values most in her culture. National dresses. "I am in love with them, with their colours. When I look at National dresses, I see so many things in them, they give me lots of inspiration. I have a book.

'Dresses dyed by the sun' by

Widad Kavar about our National dresses that are coloured by the sun, the ocean and the earth. Their designs have lots of symbolism through which one can tell the religion of the wearer, as well as whether she is married or widowed, etc. Some people do not evaluate these dresses, they even look down upon them as "old." It was through a medium of love and tenderness between a little girl "Zeta" and her grandmother "Teta" that I explained their value in a play that I called "Heirloom." The characters I derived from my own family, Zeta is my niece and Teta my own grandmother. I even placed an old photograph of her on the set and let her tell a story in the same way she used to do to me." This gave the play a genuine feel that most others don't have.

Wafa has brought with her a great number of books, video films and puppets which she hopes to use in her long-term plan for a puppet library. She has even been granted the rights to translate various books on puppetry into Arabic which she plans to do in the near future.

Let us hope that the public and other puppeteers will join hands with Wafa and help her perform and teach, in her own gentle manner, so that Jordan will stand out among other countries for having the best Puppet theatre in the Middle East. This can only take place if all the professionals in this field go hand in hand together. This is no less than a plea!

A European dream of the Orient

By Peter Hans Gopfert

THE EXHIBITION "Europe and the Orient 800-1900" at the "Horizonte" Festival in Berlin (West) is not just a trip to other geographical zones: it is also a journey into the deeper realms of dream and fantasy, to the desired, experienced and fragmentary pictures the West has made of the Orient. And it leads to manifold encounters and unexpected cultural symbioses. Motifs are taken up artistically, literally appropriated, handicraft techniques adopted experimentally. Portrayals gained on the spot and translated into pictures can be seen. Historical documents and fantasy-inspired depictions can be seen side by side in the Martin-Gropius-Bau. For one epoch, the suggestively exotic Oriental legations, which came to Europe during the course of the spice trade, were a source of fascination. The influences and stimuli of the Orient are conspicuous. They are to be found in fashion, luxury foods, and, of course, music and science.

In the large Lichthof in the Martin-Gropius-Bau, visitors can see how the rediscovery of the Ancient Orient, from Egypt, and then later from Mesopotamia, from Persia has taken place since the Renaissance. In the 18th century, Egyptian style became highly fashionable in Britain and France in furniture, interior decorations and porcelain, as Turkish fashion had before it. This is evident in the porcelain figures by various manufacturers or portraits in which refined society were wont to be painted in Turkish-like costume. Schinkel's stage sets for Mozart's "Magic Flute" are just as much a testimony of the inclination to the exotic as the Egyptian-like chair. The fantastic ideas of the Tower of Babylon range from the well-known lofty spirals to skyscrapers of modern design on a square floor plan.

In a relatively narrow section, found objects show how far the Vikings advanced into the realms of Oriental culture, bringing back ornaments, coins and cultural implements. The Vikings reached Seville in the year 844. When Christian King Sigurd arrived in Constantinople as a Crusader in 1110, had sails of Oriental silk. The ornaments in the Varby silver collection represent a brilliant climax to this chapter.

The individual objects have their own history of travel: the albatross-like griffin (the mythical animal of the Middle Ages) from Cordoba, which adorned a pediment in Pisa Cathedral until it was replaced by a replica in 1828, is the oldest known Islamic bronze sculpture. Then there is a Mameluke handbasin, damascened with gold and silver. It was in Vincennes since the 14th century and described as the baptismal font of canonised Louis IX. Fatimid rock crystals, brought back by pilgrims and Crusaders, were set in Europe and used to incorporate Christian relics. Next to them, ivory pieces created by Arab craftsmen in Spain and Sicily.

Science, astronomy, grammar, medicine, natural sciences are to be found in countless manuscripts and books in translated form in the Arab authors' own works, including Averroes, Avicenna and Maimonides. A great fund on which modern natural science in Europe was able to draw — science which, in some cases,

made its way from the Ancient World via the Orient — creates more than a striking impression.

Down the centuries, many artists have concerned themselves with Oriental themes and motifs, used them in highly different ways as set pieces, decor elements or, as press photographers, taken them for factual, realistic accounts. One can see how Dürer, who was in Venice — the gateway to the Orient — several times and met Bellini there, received his impulses. Wars and battles play an important part between the capture of Jerusalem by the Seljuks in 1070 and the Greek wars of liberation in the 19th century. The repulse of the Turks at the gates of Vienna, the Battle of Lepanto have been the occasion for great artistic transfigurations in paintings and tapestries.

The exhibition is arranged in

broad sections which generate fascination through the power of the exhibits, their mise en scene, the enchantment of the extraordinary. There are also sections of a somewhat more superficial nature — such as the gigantic pictures with Oriental harem fantasies from the 19th century. The title of the section — "Cherchez la femme" — is even funnier than the subject matter itself.

A sea of tulips, the smell of coffee, strains of Mozart — these elements and motifs are likewise only representative but not physically present, acoustically or aromatically. The 900-page catalogue with all its essays may well prove to be enjoyable reading at home but it becomes something of a weighty proposition with almost one thousand exhibits on loan from 200 different places — from the Louvre in Paris to the Eremitage in Leningrad. — DNP.



"Joseph sells grain in Egypt" by B. Brtenbergh (1598-1657), one of the paintings at the exhibition "Europe and the Orient" in Berlin's Martin-Gropius-Bau.

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Jordan pushes employment drive

By Rama Sabbagh
Reuters

AMMAN — Jordan — an exporter of college graduates but an importer of truck drivers, bakers and domestic servants — is tackling its employment problem at both ends of the scale under the pressure of economic difficulties.

Labour Minister Jamal Al-Bdour has sent a number of Arab countries draft accords intended to ease the movement of Jordanians seeking work abroad.

"This draft proposal is one of our new efforts to ease the problem of unemployment," he told Reuters.

"Of course, there are other complementary moves on the local scene to replace some of the foreign workers with Jordanians after we give them vocational training to hold such jobs," he noted.

Unemployment is a structural problem in Jordan. Doctors, engineers and other professionals seek in vain for local jobs already filled but there is a shortage of people wanted for menial tasks.

In 1988, 32,000 of the 50,000 job-seekers registered by labour

forced a 40 per cent devaluation of the dinar against the dollar, Jordanian wages are not nearly so attractive to foreign workers and the government is looking for ways to save on foreign exchange.

The authorities have stopped renewing work permits for foreigners who can be replaced with local labour and more than doubled its charges for the permits of those allowed to stay.

Bdour said 2,511 foreigners driving lorries between Iraq and the port of Aqaba could be replaced by Jordanians, as could 13,000 foreign domestic servants.

Bakeries, needlecraft industries and the care of the elderly were all fields in which training of local labour could reduce the need for foreigners, he said.

These efforts are accompanied by a more realistic appraisal of Jordan's unemployment problem. Government figures have long been far out of line with those of private economists who say at least 17 per cent of Jordanians are out of work.

Bdour said registered job-seekers numbered 55,000 in the first half of 1989, compared with 50,000 last year. In a local work force of 570,000 out of a population of three million, that would represent an unemployment figure of 9.3 per cent, substantially higher than the labour ministry has acknowledged in the past.

About half of local work force is employed by the public sector, including police and the armed forces, economists say.

Bdour's proposals for boosting Jordanians' job opportunities in other Arab states do not apply to its partners in the Arab Cooperation Council — Egypt, North Yemen and Iraq — because similar conditions have already been settled.

The four ACC states have scrapped visa requirements among themselves and agreed to give priority to each others' citizens when employing foreign workers.

The minister said he had already received a positive response to the draft accord from Qatar, which is linked in the Gulf Cooperation Council with Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.

Gulf states aim to lead oil arena

DUBAI (Agencies) — The Gulf's heavyweight oil producers, ending a rough-and-tumble decade, are preparing to knock out the competition in the 1990s.

Gulf oil analysts say the region's big five producers want to seize a larger share of profits in both the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the world.

"The long term prognosis is, very strongly in favour of the Gulf states within OPEC," a senior oil executive in the Gulf said. "We are beginning to see a return to the old days."

"The forecast contrasts sharply with the reality of 10 years ago when a surge in OPEC prices began forcing a drop in world oil use and a rise in non-OPEC competition.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) predicts the Middle East share in world oil production will rise to 34 per cent in 2005 from 34 per cent in the late '80s, as non-OPEC output gradually declines and oil demand rises by one-third.

The Gulf's big five, in a bid to increase their share of the OPEC total, will try to reshape the

OPEC quota structure. The big five are Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Iran and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Iraq is expected to voice its higher quota demands at the group's November conference, the analysts said.

And Iran, which accepted quota parity with its Gulf war foe last November, would not accept a lower quota than Baghdad, analysts said.

Gulf states within OPEC want to capture a higher share of the growth in demand proportional to their reserves," a Gulf-based analyst explained.

Sitting atop 60 per cent of the world's proved crude reserves, the Gulf producers account for 64 per cent of OPEC's 19.5 million barrels per day (b/d) ceiling.

OPEC dictated prices in the 1970s as it commanded almost half the market and drove oil prices as high as \$40 a barrel in 1980.

As a result oil consumption fell, non-OPEC countries stepped up output to benefit from high prices and the Gulf's big five saw their share of the world market shrink to 21.7 per cent at the end of 1988 from 31.7 per cent in 1979.

Prices plummeted to around \$8 in 1986 as OPEC states kept output high to maintain market shares.

World oil consumption has started to rise in the last two years stimulated by low crude prices, but it is still below the 1979 peak of 60 million barrels per day (b/d) at around 63.2 million b/d at the end of 1988.

The rise in demand led to requests by Gulf OPEC members for a redistribution of individual production quotas within OPEC to take into account reserves, production and export capacities.

Kuwait and the UAE have already started a campaign for a bigger share of OPEC total output and are not abiding by quotas allocated to them at the group's June conference in Vienna.

Saudi Oil Minister Hasham Nazer, whose country is the biggest OPEC producer, said in June he agreed with Kuwait.

"The kingdom agrees completely with Kuwait that the Gulf Cooperation Council states own

An aerial view of the Dead Sea

Jordan's Dead Sea comes alive

By Sahar Obeldat
Jordan Times staff reporter

AMMAN — Being dead is not the end of the world. On the contrary, it may even be a blessing in disguise and a beginning of a bright and prosperous future.

The Dead Sea in Jordan, in the middle of the lowest point on earth, though devoid of any signs of living creatures that normally crowd other world seas, is privileged with one of the highest mineral concentrations worldwide.

With salts and minerals seven times more than the Red Sea, the idea of exploiting the Dead Sea did not come into realization until 1983, when a Potash industry was established, (as a first stage development) with an annual production capacity of 1.4 million tonnes and a revenue of \$130 million.

The Arab Potash Company converted an area of about 100 square kilometres into solar evaporation pans to produce carnallite, (a salt containing 20 per cent potassium chloride). The carnallite is pumped into the refinery where potash is extracted and the remaining salts and Dead Sea brines such as sodium chloride, magnesium chloride and magnesium bromide, are returned to the sea.

In order to extract these salts, and as a second stage development, a number of processing

plants are to be constructed, better known as the Dead Sea chemical complex.

According to the general director of the Jordanian Industrial Consortium Engineering Company (JICECO), Omar Dakhan, the plan and general appraisal of the complex was completed and detailed techno-economic feasibility study is about to begin before the end of this month.

"JICECO is the fourth common partner among three international consulting firms that will be engaged in the feasibility study which is expected to take 12-18 months," Dakhan told the Jordan Times.

The study will be financed by the Kuwaiti Fund for Development, the Arab Development Fund, the Islamic Bank for Development and the Jordanian government.

The capital cost of the complex and related infrastructure is estimated at \$2.5 billion, to be financed through equity, long-term loans and foreign investors, in addition to credits from regional and international financing institutions and friendly governments.

"The Jordanian participation is expected to be only 20 to 25 per cent and in local currency too," he said, adding that the construction is expected to start within three years, with a completion period of ten years, divided into different phases.

According to JICECO, the basic raw materials needed for the project such as phosphate rock, limestone and Dead Sea brines, are all local. Some other intermediary materials like ammonia, nitric acid and other petrochemicals are available in neighbouring Arab countries and will be imported from there.

It is also hoped that tarsand deposits located close to the Potash plant, will be developed to produce not only steam energy but other products needed for the complex like sulphur.

"It is to be a unique project in the sense that a large number of plants will be located adjacent to each other, thus high efficiency of utilisation of raw materials and resources will be met," he said.

According to Dakhan, all products of the chemical complex are export-oriented and not for local consumption, because Jordan is a small market and the "unique" products will not only completely substitute for the imported materials, but will also satisfy other countries.

Most products will be utilised in agriculture and industry, and include fertilisers, detergent ingredients, bleaching agents, pharmaceuticals and products used in manufacturing other products like glass.

"So you see, the process is endless and each product is expected to lead to other products

and the manufacturing processes can create some derivational operations that either the complex or the private sector can perform," he said.

As it is a bulk project, it is expected to absorb large numbers of professional labour, but as Dakhan noted, as this point it is difficult to reach an estimated number of labour to be employed in the project.

"The private sector will have a major part in every project, and its participation is expected to reach an excellent percentage of 10-15," he said.

Naturally, such a massive project with major expenses, which expected to generate good annual revenues in the range of \$750 million, is bound to be given top priority by the government. "It will have a major role in rectifying the current economic situation, for it is going to create new job opportunities, and it will also increase the earnings of foreign currency through exporting," he said.

The project will also entail the construction of a rail track from the Dead Sea to Aqaba, and loading and unloading facilities in the port, for it to be possible to channel the annual 7-8 million tons production. This in addition to the housing projects, affiliated to the complex.

(It seems that the Dead Sea is not dead after all...)

Jordan hosts regional conference on computers

AMMAN (I.T.) — Jordan is hosting a major regional conference on what is seen as an added emphasis on the Kingdom's role in the computer market in the Middle East.

The two-day conference, conducted by Acer Incorporated of Taiwan, one of the largest computer firms in the Far East, opens Tuesday at the Marriott Hotel.

Held by Acer in cooperation with Microsoft one of the largest USA software manufacturers, and Novell, one of the largest American computer network sup-

plier, the meeting will group the three firms' distributors in the Middle East and Africa.

The conference will focus on the latest in computer technology, Arabic DOS and networking. Twelve countries will be represented in the conference.

Fair Kouda of Special Systems Co., the Acer distributor in Jordan, said Monday that the Acer conference in Amman after IBM conference last year highlights the importance that Amman is playing in the computer market in the region.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES					
Monday, September 12, 1989 Central Bank official rates					
	Buy	Sell	French franc	90.5	91.4
U.S. dollar	609.0	615.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	411.7	415.8
Pound Sterling	935.0	944.4	Dutch guilder	270.3	273.8
Deutschmark	304.6	307.4	Swedish crown	90.7	91.6
Swiss franc	332.8	336.3	Italian lire (for 100)	42.6	43.8
			Belgian franc (for 10)	145.9	147.4

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES			
Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.			
One Sterling	1.5415/25	U.S. dollars	
One U.S. dollar	1.1835/65	Canadian dollar	
	1.9940/47	Deutschmarks	
	2.2460/70	Dutch guilders	
	1.7210/20	Swiss francs	
	41.68/71	Belgian francs	
	6.7160/70	French francs	
	1428/1429	Italian lire	
	147.50/60	Japanese yen	
	6.7050/7100	Swedish crowns	
	7.2450/2500	Norwegian crowns	
	7.7400/50	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	358.30/358.70	U.S. dollars	

WORLD STOCK MARKETS	
Reuters	
SYDNEY — The market finished marginally weaker as early buying optimism evaporated in afternoon profit-taking. The All Ordinaries Index fell 1.9 to 1,756.3.	
TOKYO — Index-linked buying by a major foreign securities house propped the Nikkei Index up near the close. It fell 2.15 to 34,113.66.	
HONG KONG — Share prices fell after a government land auction fetched a lower price than expected. After early gains, the Hang Seng Index ended down 6.03 at 2,614.60.	
SINGAPORE — Share prices fell over a broad front on profit-taking in moderate trading after recent gains. The Straits Times Industrial Index fell 5.39 to 1,414.30.	
BOMBAY — Prices dropped after a press report said the Indian economy was slowing down in fiscal 1989/90 after robust growth the previous year. Tata Steel fell 20 rupees to 1,173.75.	
FRANKFURT — Disappointment over Daimler half-year results and continued concern about the precarious situation of German retailer Co Op pushed shares sharply lower. The Dax index fell 16.80 to 1,640.81.	
ZURICH — Closed for local holiday.	
LONDON — Share prices were weak in moderately active afternoon business, with earlier losses extended after Wall Street opened lower. At 1438 GMT the FTSE index was down 19.4 at 2,404.5.	
NEW YORK — Wall Street stayed lower but directionless in mid-morning trading after early futures-related selling. The Dow was down nine at 2,701.	

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

"I sent for a free government recipe book. I think they sent me the wrong one!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME. by Herri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

UGSIE
DONUP
HINGKT
PEMEXT

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: TWILL GUILD BEGONE HORROR
Answer: The groom was fit to be tied — DOWN

Peanuts

I HEAR A STRANGE ROARING IN THE DISTANCE. WE'D BETTER PADDLE LIKE MAD!

Mutt'n' Jeff

THESE SAD SONGS ALWAYS TOUCH ME!

I WISH I COULD REMEMBER MY MOTHER!

I WAS BORN ON A STREET CAR, AND NEVER SAW MY MOTHER AGAIN!

HOW COME?

SHE DIDN'T GET A TRANSFER FOR ME!

Andy Capp

TCH! THERE'S NO PLEASING HER, ALAN — WHAT AM I DOING WRONG?

WHY NOT ASK HER?

I DON'T WANT TO KNOW THAT MUCH ABOUT IT!



Charity Soap Box Derby held in Amman:

An exciting soap box derby was held at the Amman National Park last Friday. The race was won by the Lufthansa German Airlines team. Sixteen year old Mark Messbauer and his father drove a reconstructed ski sledge — same as used by the German national team in the Olympic winter games. The winning soap box aroused the interest of the contestants and spectators due to its unique design — a simple but very effective idea from the constructor Johannes Becking. The winner donated the prize — a ticket to London sponsored by British Airways — to the Hussein Society of the Physically Handicapped in a small ceremony held at the Marriott Hotel attended by Princess Maida Road. The derby was organized by the Royal Automobile Club and the Marriott. Runners up are the Shell team and the Marriott team.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

Q1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♥ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♦ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♣ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
What action do you take?

Q2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♥ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♦ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♣ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
What action do you take?

Q3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♥ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♦ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♣ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
What do you bid now?

Q4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♥ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♦ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♣ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
What do you bid now?

Q5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♥ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♦ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♣ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
What do you bid now?

Q6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♥ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♦ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♣ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
What do you bid now?

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You are now afforded a special opportunity to make some long range plans where your future security is concerned. A thoughtful friend may make a suggestion that will save you many dollars and a lot of worry.

ARIES: An outside associate gives some very good ideas to aid you in increasing your assets. Take your attachment in the world to meet some influential persons.

TAURUS: Your work now goes along very satisfactory lines because of the great cooperation you get from fellow workers. In future social arrangements be sure to include members of your household.

GEMINI: New formulas added to your proven business can add to your current security. An excellent time to get your home in tip top and span order.

MOON CHILDREN: Your home will be the perfect place to entertain your friends. Get into the long range plans to have more financial well being.

LEO: To have more success in business get all possible data from various sources. Study your home carefully to see what you can do to improve operative skill there.

VIRGO: Conflict between work and social life should be resolved by more intelligently planning your hours. What you do in practical problems now can bring long term security.

LIBRA: You are the one to extend the olive branch to a friend with whom there has been some friction. A good time to visit one who is shut-in or has been restricted.

SCORPIO: Look into costs of pleasure that tempt you before committing yourself. Don't bring into the open now that there are cross purposes between you and family.

SAGITTARIUS: Work diligently still at a project requiring more time—then—anticipation. Home should be the central focus of most of your activity so plan events there.

CAPRICORN: Arrange career and social life so you get maximum of your duties performed. Getting rid of present problems at home will clear the way for a new well being there.

AQUARIUS: Heighten conditions at home by inviting especially charming guests there. Get some fresh new slant how to best improve business and financial affairs.

PISCES: Your family could have a good time getting away from the house. Don't argue with a partner now over some piddling sums of money.

Today's child: If your child were born today he or she will be unusually magnetic and will attract a host of friends and followers. They will have a markedly decided ability in both business and finance. This individual will also have a strong interest in competitive sports and in getting a good education.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

THE Daily Crossword by Sidney L. Robbins

ACROSS

- Play the lead
- Volcano eruption
- Slips
- Facilitate
- Bread unit
- Ship's head
- SPICE word
- In addition
- To one side
- A making like
- Pipe joint
- Branch
- Building wing
- Goes best
- Tammyson poem
- Kind of trading?
- Falls back
- NY college
- US missile
- Fr. coin
- Intensified
- Rarely acceptable
- Soring tool
- Short jacket
- A Truman
- Moved
- Voluntary split
- Actress
- poems
- Shambell grant
- House plants
- Possessive
- Related
- Habits late
- Shrimp
- Having great range
- Follow orders
- City on the Rhine
- Show ascent
- Hot info

DOWN

- Shame one?
- Story
- Impulse
- Cable
- Techin
- Shape
- direction
- Scouries
- Read quickly
- Baby food
- Home of poetry
- Plumed bird
- Shores much
- longness
- Funniest
- Delivery patron
- Twist
- Repayment
- Tabby's call
- Man king
- 20 Hazards
- Formal account abstr.
- They help
- Ornate
- for All
- Sensors
- Kick abstr.
- Container
- Dwarf
- Small fruit
- S. Afr.
- statueman
- Alcoholic
- Pick
- At wall
- God of war
- Apple garment
- Once more
- Utters
- Construction

Becker beats Lendl to win U.S. Open

By Larry Fine
Reuter

NEW YORK — Boris Becker proved his Grand Slam versatility by beating world number one Ivan Lendl 7-6, 1-6, 6-3, 7-6 to win the U.S. tennis championship on Sunday.

Becker, a three-time Wimbledon champion, had never before reached a Grand Slam final anywhere but on the centre court grass at the All England Club. The West German man since Baron Gottfried von Cramm lost to Doo Budge at the 1937 U.S. national championships.

"It's quite unbelievable. I won Wimbledon and the U.S. Open," Becker said after his triumph. "The computer doesn't say so, but I know I'm quite close, if not number one."

Lendl, who won this year's Australian Open, will still be ranked ahead of number two Becker despite losing for the fourth straight time to the exciting West German.

"The key to the match was I was able to play my game," Becker said. "On the important points my first and second serves were very good."

Becker played his best power tennis in the two tiebreaks that carried him to victory in a match begun in sweltering heat at the National Tennis Centre.

The West German raced out to a 5-0 lead in the opening set and went on to win it 7-2, firing in all five of his first serves along the way.

Lendl and Becker traded the next two sets before battling their way into another end-of-set showdown.

"Tiebreaks are usually a shoot-out. But with a serve like his, there's not much that you can

really do about it," Lendl said.

Lendl had shown his fighting spirit by climbing back into the fourth set with a service break in the eighth game achieved through a pair of backhand winners from the second deuce of the game.

But Lendl could not come close to taking another break as his usually reliable groundstrokes sprayed wide and long and Becker always seemed to find the big serve when he needed it.

Becker nearly broke again in the 11th game of the final set as Lendl held off a break point to lead 6-5. An emphatic ace by Becker to end the next game set the stage for the climatic tiebreak.

Becker won the third set 6-3 to lead 2-1 in sets. He needed only one more set to win his first U.S. Open title.

The intensity and calibre of tennis from both players picked up in this 43-minute set.

Becker claimed his lead on the second set point. Serving at 5-3 Becker reached set point, only to have Lendl save it with a sizzling forehand passing winner down the line to reach deuce.

At deuce Lendl went up a break point with a forehand winner. Becker saved it with a forehand volley winner.

Becker gained his second set point with his ninth ace of the match and won the set with a crushing service winner.

Questions, however, were raised about the physical fitness of Becker during this set.

After the third game, tournament trainer Bill Norris attended to Becker on the sidelines, administering a spray to his upper left

leg. Later in the set Becker sprayed both legs. On the changeovers, Becker manched on a banana.

But during the points Becker moved freely and easily with no visible discomfort.

The first three games of this set were identical to the opening three games of the match as Becker took a 3-0 lead by holding serve in the first and third games sandwiched around a service break in the second game.

Becker's service break for 3-1 came on the third break point on a Lendl backhand passing error. Lendl had been down 0-40 but Becker missed the first opportunity with a backhand error and Lendl saved the next with a service winner.

Lendl pulled to within 3-4 by breaking Becker in the seventh game, winning the last two points of the game on volley miscues by Becker.

But Lendl dropped the next game on serve at love with four errors to fall behind 3-5. He missed three forehands and threw in a double fault to lose the game.

Becker won his first U.S. Open by winning the fourth set 7-6.

His trademark of powerful serving won the tiebreak 7-4.

Leading 5-4, Becker slammed the 11th ace of the match. On match point Becker unloaded a blistering unreturnable first serve.

At the moment of victory, three hours and 51 minutes into the match, Becker stood in the middle of the court, hurled his racket high into the stands and raised his arms in triumph.

Lendl was careless in the tiebreak.



Boris Becker

reak.

Leading 2-1 Lendl double faulted and then netted a forehand on a mishit to trail 2-3.

Becker went up 4-2 with a backhand volley winner. Becker lost the next point with a backhand lob over the baseline but Lendl could not pull even as he sailed a forehand over the baseline to make it 3-5.

Lendl pulled to 4-5 but then Becker served out the match with his two crushing serves.

Becker had a chance to serve for the match before the tiebreak

if he had capitalised on a break point opportunity at 5-5. But his forehand approach shot went wide and two points later Lendl had held serve for 6-5.

Becker had wasted an even earlier opportunity in the set by failing to hold a 4-2 lead.

Lendl started his comeback by holding serve for 3-4.

In the next game Lendl displayed great shotmaking skill and took advantage of a Becker double fault to even the set at 4-4. Becker had a game point to go up 5-3 but double faulted on game point. It was his third double fault of the set.

At deuce Lendl hit a delicate backhand return passing winner and then on break point nailed a backhand winner passing shot.

Becker had gone on top in the fifth game for a 3-2 lead by breaking Lendl's serve. From 15-15, Becker slammed an overhead winner, forced Lendl to net a forehand passing attempt and then won the game off a Lendl backhand error.

The pair had exchanged service breaks in the second and third games.

Lendl broke first for a 2-0 lead. Becker opened the second game with a double fault and Lendl reeled off three consecutive passing shot winners to win the game at 15-40.

Becker broke back in the third game for 1-2. Down 15-40 Lendl saved one break point with a rare winning volley. Lendl came to net on the next point, but this time Becker easily put away the backhand passing winner.

Becker held serve in the fourth game to even the set at 2-2.

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An East German girl, aged three, looks through the fence of a refugee camp in Hungary unaware that she will be in the West the next day.

West faces refugee flood after Hungary opens its borders

PASSAU, West Germany (Agencies) — Exultant East German refugees poured into West Germany Monday while their former homeland denounced Hungary for letting them go.

The first of about 6,500 emigrants who had waited with growing impatience for weeks in Hungarian refugee camps trundled across the Austrian-West German border in battered, overloaded cars just before dawn.

By mid-morning the trickle had turned into a convoy. Couples mostly in their 20s and 30s and many of them clutching young children began filling a Red Cross campsite outside Passau and the town's Nibelungenhalle concert hall, where bunk beds and showers had been set up.

"The mood is great. We often hear them say 'thank God we're finally here,'" said Josef Heisl, border police chief in this southeastern Bavarian town on the Danube River.

About 1,500 carloads of refugees were on their way to West Germany through Austria and about 60 chartered buses were expected to bring others during the week, Heisl said.

More than 3,000 East Germans streamed into Austria during the night after reformist Hungary threw open its once fortified border to allow the reluctant citizens of a Warsaw pact ally to flee.

Relations between reform-minded Budapest and orthodox East Berlin have been strained by the refugee crisis and now look set to take a further nosedive, according to Western diplomats and East bloc sources in East Berlin.

East German newspapers re-

printed an angry denunciation of the decision by Hungary to let the East Germans leave for the West.

The Communist Party daily Neues Deutschland put Sunday's short report from the official ADN news agency prominently on its front page. Other newspapers did the same, underlining East Berlin's anger with Hungary.

ADN said Hungary had broken treaties and was supporting "organized trade in humans" as well as interfering in East Germany's internal affairs.

Hungarian radio compared the East Germans' departure by car, bus and train to a new year's eve celebration "with horns blaring and people shouting."

Thousands of East Germans had flooded into Hungary on tourist visas after it tore down its border fence with Austria in May. By mid-August, refugee camps were going up around Budapest.

While Hungary risked worsened relations with East Germany it could develop closer and potentially lucrative ties with Common Market member West Germany.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, whose country offers East Germans automatic citizenship and help getting settled, hailed Hungary's move as representative of "its humane policies."

As refugees made their way in to Austria, new East German arrivals were reported at several refugee camps in Hungary.

Many are trained as skilled craftsmen and say they were dissatisfied with the hard-line East German policies that sharply restrict dissent and personal freedoms.

They also say they were dissatisfied with the economic situation, which is better in East Germany than other parts of the Soviet Bloc but still far behind Western standards.

While the crossing into West Germany was more subdued for most, some of the East Germans again were overtaken by emotion.

A man from Thuringen, accompanied by his wife and their three-year-old son, told reporters of the joy he and his countrymen experienced when told Sunday night that they could leave for the West.

"My wife and I bawled, and the little one laughed," he said. "This is great," shouted Udo, a 26-year-old from Dresden, one of a group of four East Germans in their 20s who shared a car for the "freedom convoy."

"We applied to leave three years ago, and we got rejected a month ago," he said, explaining his decision to flee through Hungary.

About 6,500 beds were available in West Germany for the refugees, including 4,000 in tent communities set up in the Bavarian towns of Vilshofen, Teufelbach, Trostberg, Hengersberg and Freilassing.

Without elaborating, the Hungarian communiqué that announced permission for the exodus said, "the talks between East Germany and West Germany ended in failure."

Refugees made their way in to Austria, new East German arrivals were reported at several refugee camps in Hungary.

Anti-Chinese violence suicidal — Dalai Lama

MCLEOD GANJ, India (R) — The Dalai Lama Monday confronted radical Tibetans advocating guerrilla war against China with a warning that violence would be suicidal.

Tibet's exiled spiritual leader told a conference of the Tibetan Youth Congress, held every three years, that violent resistance failed to stop Chinese troops taking over Tibet in the 1950s and thousands of people died as a result.

"I am for non-violence, not because it is my religious belief, but also because I feel violence is suicidal," he told a packed meeting of young Tibetans and members of his government in exile.

Since 1987, when Chinese security forces crushed the first of a series of pro-independence demonstrations in Lhasa, the Tibetan capital, the Dalai Lama's non-violent campaign for Tibetan freedom has come under pressure from increasing numbers of his followers.

Lhasa has been under martial law since March when 16 people

were killed in violent protests in the city, according to Chinese figures. Tibetans say many more died.

Foreign reporters are barred from Lhasa, but one recent Western visitor quoted Tibetan residents as saying several hundred people have been executed since March. There has been no independent confirmation of the allegations.

Tashi Namgyal, secretary-general of the Youth Congress, said he believed Tibetans eventually would be forced to take up the gun against China, which says it has ruled the region for centuries. No country disputes its claim.

"At the moment we are expressing our opinion," Namgyal said. "When we start we cannot stop, but we must carry on to the end and that will take a lot of complex planning."

Delegates to the six-day policy-making meeting were expected to decide whether to sanction a violent campaign that would go against the teachings of Tibetan Buddhism.

The Dalai Lama acknowledged that some people believed that 30 years of non-violence since he and many followers fled in 1959 had achieved little.

"They are for more radical means," he said. "But by including in violence we will be creating another critical situation instead of solving the present crisis."

The Tibetan cause received worldwide support precisely because of its peaceful nature, he said.

Many Tibetan exiles were angered last year when the Dalai Lama offered to give up the goal of full independence and accept limited autonomy for Tibet with Peking retaining control of its defense and foreign policy.

The Dalai Lama's office and Chinese diplomats in New Delhi began informal contacts, but these stopped after Peking crushed pro-democracy student demonstrations in June.

"Although we still want to talk to the Chinese, we are waiting for them to contact us," the Dalai Lama said.

Roh proposes three-step unification plan

SEOUL (AP) — President Roh Tae-Woo proposed Monday a broad three-step plan for unifying communist North Korea with the capitalist South and ending four stormy decades of tension, hostilities and confrontation.

Roh urged North Korean leaders to help form a Korean commonwealth, an interim association to work for eventual national unification, ending the "tragedy of division (which) is unbearably painful."

"Just as the barrier of division is tall and thick, so the path to unification is steep and rugged," Roh said in a televised address to the opening of the national assembly. "The reality is that it will be impossible to achieve unification overnight."

Roh offered no timetable, but said he hoped a North-South summit would be held soon and a

charter for the commonwealth signed by August, 1990, the 45th anniversary of partition.

Roh has called for a summit with North Korean leader Kim Il Sung before, with no positive response.

Political observers doubted North Korea would accept Roh's proposal, and some opposition lawmakers said it did not reflect the views of all South Koreans. The government claimed it conducted a poll of 15,000 citizens to help formulate the proposal.

Many Koreans have long hoped for reconciliation between the North and South, separated in 1945 at the end of World War II. The two Koreas share a common culture, language, and history and thousands of families have been divided by the border.

Roh's latest unification proposal comes as the government faces

increasing pressure from dissidents and radical students for making stronger efforts toward unification with the North.

A radical student and a dissident clergyman are in prison for making unauthorized visits to North Korea to discuss unification. The government maintains dialogue on unifying the peninsula must be conducted only through official channels.

Radical students have staged violent demonstrations in support of North Korea's unification proposal, which includes calls for the immediate withdrawal of 43,000 U.S. troops stationed in South Korea.

The North's plan calls for a confederation under which there would be one nation for military and diplomatic matters but both sides would maintain different political and social systems. The

South has called the proposal "unrealistic."

Roh's new three-step plan does not mention U.S. troops, but it took into account other North Korean demands, according to officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and also changed the basis of past South Korean proposals.

The first step in Roh's plan calls for establishing a Korean National Community, agreeing essentially that there is a national community. This includes a North-South summit and the signing of a National Community charter.

The charter would outline the Korean commonwealth, stage two in the unification plan.

In the final step, the commonwealth would draw up a constitution and set up elections for a united nation, Roh said.

Bush's drug plan could expand role of military

WASHINGTON (AP) — President George Bush's battle plan for the war on drugs has a secret section that could expand the role of the U.S. military, possibly sending advisers to Peru and Bolivia, administration officials said Sunday.

William J. Bennett, Bush's top drug adviser, said Bush was willing to send special forces advisers to the Andean countries, but stressed in a televised interview that the administration does not send troops into combat in Latin America.

As part of his anti-drug efforts, Bush signed a directive outlining the goals and limits of military involvement, said another administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Bush said last week that \$261 million in security assistance would be available to Colombia, Bolivia and Peru for their anti-drug efforts. Government agencies will be working over the next two weeks drafting detailed plans for the use of that money, the source said.

Bennett did not discuss details of the classified effort, but he denied published reports that the administration intends to send U.S. special forces on drug-fighting missions in combat zones in

the two Andean mountain neighbors of Colombia.

"There is no plan for any special forces to accompany troops in Peru or Bolivia into combat missions," Bennett said on ABC television.

Although U.S. troops may be under orders to avoid combat, the administration has dispatched security advisers to Colombia as part of a \$65-million package designed to assist that nation fight cocaine cartels.

"We see now in Colombia the presence of American trainers working with the Colombians, giving them advice, training them on equipment. This is the kind of thing we would anticipate if Peru and Bolivia take the steps," Bennett said.

Bennett was responding to a report in Sunday editions of the Washington Post that President Bush had signed a secret directive including new "rules of engagement" for U.S. special forces in the three Andean countries.

About two dozen members of the U.S. special forces based in Panama have been rotating into Bolivia's Chapare valley, training anti-narcotics police there, but they have been barred from par-

The Post said the directive would allow the advisers to accompany Bolivian drug forces on patrol. However, the administration sources said that "the military is not allowed to go out into the jungle on patrol. That is the way it has been and the way it remains."

The Post report quoted an unidentified senior administration official as saying that "several hundred" U.S. military advisers could be sent to the three nations under the "Andean initiative" announced by Bush.

It said a secret section of the initiative would authorize the U.S. special forces to accompany military patrols into so-called "safe areas" in the three nations, including Peru's upper Huallaga valley. The region is a co-growth jungle that U.S. officials say is dominated by leftist guerrillas.

"As we have said about the troops on the ground in Colombia, it is a dangerous environment," Bennett said Sunday. "They are not going to seek out combat or conflict. And we just all hope that nothing befalls them."

Bush declined to take questions from reporters at the White House late Sunday.



A demonstrator unfurls a star-and-crescent Azeri nationalist flag from the Communist Party headquarters during a mass rally in Central Baku last week.

Azeri front suspends strike

MOSCOW (R) — Workers in Azerbaijan have suspended a general strike after the Soviet republic's government agreed to recognize the popular front mass movement and meet some of its demands, a front spokesman said Monday.

The week-old strike could be resumed if the Azerbaijani Parliament failed to follow through on the agreed measures, spokesman Nazim Ragimov said.

The government promised the recently-formed front, which wants more political and economic autonomy for Azerbaijan from Moscow, that it would soon gain official recognition, Ragimov said by telephone from the Azerbaijani capital.

It will also consider lifting an overnight curfew imposed in Baku and several other regions of the republic in November to stop violence over the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

It pledged to set up a commission to examine the cases of people arrested during a wave of demonstrations in November and December over the Nagorno-Karabakh issue. The republic's Parliament will discuss Friday a Kremlin commission governing Nagorno-Karabakh, Ragimov said.

Nagorno-Karabakh is in Azerbaijan but its Armenian majority wants the area to be united with neighboring Armenia. The popular front has demanded that the Kremlin commission be dissolved and the area returned to full Azeri control.

The front called the strike after weeks of mass demonstrations in Baku brought no response from the republic's government. The Communist Party daily Pravda said Monday that 500,000 people attended the most recent demonstration, on Saturday evening in the city's central square.

The strike, which began Sept. 4, cost 130 million rubles (\$220 million) in lost production in the first four days, the official news agency, TASS said.

Popular front leader Abul-Faz and Baku's Communist Party chief Muslim Mamedov went on television late Sunday to announce they had reached agreement to suspend it, Ragimov said.

It was unclear what the Azerbaijani Parliament could do about the commission other than ask the Kremlin to dissolve it. Moscow sent the commission to Nagorno-Karabakh in January after months of violence in and around the territory.

Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh have appealed to the United Nations to send troops if necessary to guarantee their security, an Armenian journalist said Saturday.

Corazon Aquino

Aquino wishes Marcos happy birthday

MANILA (AP) — President Corazon Aquino wished her ousted predecessor Ferdinand Marcos a happy 72nd birthday but refused Monday to budge on her ban against him and his family returning to the Philippines.

About 200 Marcos supporters rallied Monday to mark their aging leader's birthday and demand his return from Hawaii, where he was living since he was ousted in a popular uprising three years ago.

In Hawaii, hundreds of supporters attended a birthday party for the former Philippine president as he remained hospitalized in critical condition. The outdoor celebration was held Sunday, the day before Marcos' birthday, after his wife, Imelda, attended mass with him in his Honolulu hospital room.

The Marcoses face federal racketeering in the United States for allegedly looting more than \$100 million from their country.

Aquino told reporters that as a Christian, "I pray that God will give (Marcos) his blessings from this day."

"I am holding fast to what I believe is for the national interest," Aquino said. "And that is not to allow Marcos and his family to return at this time."

Aquino has cited national security in refusing to allow Marcos to return. The former president has been hospitalized in Honolulu since January with various heart, kidney, liver and lung ailments and is reported in critical condition.

Aquino also has said she will not allow Marcos to be buried in the Philippines if he dies abroad. On Monday, Marcos supporters published a full-page advertisement in the nationally circulated Philippines Daily Inquirer congratulating "our beloved Ferdinand E. Marcos" on his birthday.

The advertisement also urged Aquino to allow Marcos to return home to die "in the interest of true national reconciliation and as an act of affirmation that the present government upholds the right of every citizen to return to his homeland."

In a related development, airports in Manila and Cebu went on alert Monday to prevent a relative of Aquino and longtime Marcos supporter from slipping back into the country.

Bienvenido Alondo, acting commissioner of immigration and deportation, said the alert was ordered because of intelligence reports that businessman Eduardo Cojuangco was planning to enter the country from the United States.

"We have information that Cojuangco has a plan to return," Alondo said in a radio interview. "So I alerted immigration officers in Manila airport and in Cebu because the report is he will come in via Cebu. In any case, when we find out that he came in, we will detain him at the airport."

COLUMN

Batman — not for children?

DEAUVILLE, France (R) — The director of the smash-hit film Batman Sunday criticized censors who have stopped children from seeing their hero. Tim Burton, speaking to reporters at the Deauville Festival of American Films, rejected criticism that violent and sadistic scenes made his film unfit for children. "I think it is for everyone," said Burton. "I think it's much more subversive to tell (children) that something is bad... they're going to want to see it anyway." Britain and Belgium have barred younger children from seeing the film of Batman, a cartoon figure who has entertained children for decades. French censors will rule Monday whether to impose an age restriction. Critics say the modern Batman, played by Michael Keaton, bears little resemblance to the harmless hero portrayed by Adam West in the 1960s television series. British film censor James Ferman said in July after seeing the film: "Some of it was very dark, unlike the television series or the comics I read as a boy." Burton's Gotham City — home of Batman — is sinister, with the caped crusader's arrival the Joker trying to kill his enemies. In one scene the Joker, played by Jack Nicholson, delights in throwing acid and setting the face of a victim played by actress Jerry Hall.

Playing around gets expensive

NEW YORK (AP) — Singer Tom Jones will pay child support for a 14-month-old boy the entertainer fathered during a 1987 visit to New York, said attorneys who reached a tentative settlement.

But the settlement Thursday failed to assuage the feelings of the child's mother, 27-year-old Katherine Berkery, who waged a bitter paternity fight against Jones. Judge Judith Sheindlin ruled July 27 that the Welsh singer was the father of Jonathan Jones Berkery. "I think he's a disgusting human being," Berkery said after the agreement was reached during a private negotiating session. Although no support figure was announced under terms of the agreement, Berkery's lawyer, Raoul Felder, was reportedly seeking \$3,800 a month. Berkery said she was "very happy with what I'm going to get." Alton Abramowitz, the attorney for Jones, said the agreement still needs the singer's approval. Jones did not yet know the details of the plan, Abramowitz said. During the paternity fight, attorneys for Jones argued Berkery was a prostitute who lied about her background. Jones, who has never seen the child, did not attend the hearings. Berkery said Jones fathered the child when they spent two nights together in Oct. 1987. The boy was born June 27, 1988.

Thatcher halts sex survey

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was influenced to veto plans for Britain's biggest official sex survey, aimed to help in the fight against AIDS. "The prime minister was concerned about the intrusion into people's private lives," a Downing Street spokesman said. The £750,000 (\$1.15 million) survey would have asked 20,000 adults explicit and detailed questions about their sex lives. Thatcher's decision has angered medical researchers, who expected the inquiry to provide a comprehensive dossier of crucial data to fight AIDS. "This is not a survey motivated by prurient curiosity into people's private lives," the health official said. "The data is urgently needed for prediction and prevention."

Global weather (major world cities)

	TEMP.	WIND	WED.
AMSTERDAM	18	24	75
ATHENS	20	28	31
BANGKOK	29	24	87
BARRANCO	25	27	34
BELGIUM/ARLES	10	50	15
BOMBAY	24	25	82
CARACAS	11	22	72
COPENHAGEN	11	17	63
FRANKFURT	11	14	54
HONG KONG	10	20	77
ISTANBUL	20	28	81
JAKARTA	16	21	69
LOS ANGELES	16	20	70
MADRID	15	25	77
MECCA	29	24	84
MONTREAL	12	22	64
MOSCOW	15	25	69
NEW DELHI	25	27	80
NEW YORK	20	28	87
PARIS	15	20	77
ROME	16	20	75
SINGAPORE	24	25	82
TOKYO	24	25	82
VIENNA	14	27	75

M — indicates missing information.